

Solutions

Each answer shows the steps, then the **result**.

2.1

- they are **refusing politely** / do not want to go

2.2

- they did **not** like the film — praising the cinema instead implies there was nothing good to say about it

2.3

- they have **doubts** about Marco — “certainly keen” praises enthusiasm and **not** ability

2.4

- the speaker thinks the system is **fast**
- the week of learning is a real cost, so the improvement is **not as straightforward** as it sounds

3.1 C

- the last sentence — a fifty-minute wait for a sandwich — is the speaker’s real point

3.2

- the first two clauses are praise, but the **final sentence undercuts** them
- A is a trap because “very reasonably priced” appears **literally**

3.3

(a)

- e.g. “**I could, I suppose, if nobody else is free.**”

(b)

- e.g. “**That’s certainly one approach — how would it handle the busy period?**”

(c)

- e.g. “**The portions were generous.**”