

“But...” began the doctor, while his colleagues stared at her.

“Have you any soldiers who can scrub floors?” she asked, without waiting for him to finish.

“Scrub? Yes, I suppose so. But we haven’t any scrubbing brushes.”

“And no money to buy any,” put in another doctor. “That’s why there is all this confusion. That’s why there are no blankets or operating-tables. The Army won’t give us money to buy them.”

Florence’s answer took their breath away. “I have the money, gentlemen,” she said. “We won’t worry about the Army.”

“But...” began one of the officers again.

Florence cut in on his question. “Don’t you realise that people in England have been giving money to provide comforts for these men? And that I collected a great deal myself?” She did not tell them she had £30,000 to spend as she found necessary. “I want two or three men to come with me into Constantinople to buy scrubbing brushes. Two hundred should be enough to begin with, don’t you think?”

**Cyril Davey** from *Lady with a Lamp* (The Lutterworth Press)



Choose the correct answer to each question and write it out.  
(1.5 marks each)

- 1 What was Florence Nightingale’s reaction to what she saw?
  - a) It was just what she expected.
  - b) She was horrified and angry.
  - c) She was very understanding.
  
- 2 What did the doctors think about Florence Nightingale coming to work at the hospital?
  - a) They thought she was going to be a nuisance.
  - b) They were grateful for her help.
  - c) They were relieved she was there.