

Reading



"The twins and the truth"





"The twins and the truth"



Petita Peña is scared. She is only 16 years old, and she is giving birth to her first baby. There are problems with the birth. Fortunately, she is in a hospital, and two doctors, a man and a woman, are helping her. They decide to do a cesarean.

When Petita wakes up from the surgery, she is happy. She has a beautiful baby girl. She names her daughter Andrea.

Andrea grows up in a town in Ecuador. When she is 14 years old, she and her parents go out to dinner in another city. At the restaurant, they see another girl. She is the same age as Andrea, with the same brown hair, the same brown eyes, and the same smile. The girls are identical.

The other girl is eating dinner with her parents. Who are her parents? They are Roberto Romo and Isabel Garcia—the married doctors who did the cesarean.

Later, Petita tells everyone, "The doctors lied to me! They told me, 'Congratulations! You have a beautiful baby girl!' But I had twin girls, not one girl! The doctors kept one of my babies!"

"That's not true!" the doctors say. "Yes, Petita Peña had twin girls. But she cried when we told her. 'I can't take care of two babies,' she said. So we kept one baby. We named her Marielisa. She is our daughter now."

Petita Peña and her husband tell Marielisa, "We want you to live with us." But Marielisa doesn't want to live with them. "I'll visit you and Andrea often," she tells them. "But I want to live with the doctors. They are giving me a good education, and they help me in every way. If you really love me, let me stay with them."



2 VOCABULARY

Which words have the same meaning as the words in *italics*? Write the letter of your answer on the line.

- e 1. Petita is *afraid*.
_____ 2. *Luckily*, she is at a hospital.
_____ 3. She gives birth to *two babies*.
_____ 4. The two babies are *the same*.
_____ 5. She wakes up from the *operation*.
_____ 6. She *gives* one baby *the name* Andrea.

- a. fortunately
b. twins
c. identical
d. surgery
e. scared
f. names



3 COMPREHENSION

◆ Remembering Details

There are nine mistakes in the story below. Find the mistakes and cross them out. Choose the correct words and write them above the mistakes. (The first one is done for you.)

16	doctors	first	parents	scared
daughter	Fifteen	girl	restaurant	

Petita Peña is ^{scared}~~happy~~. She is only 18 years old, and she is giving birth to her second baby.

There are problems with the birth. Fortunately, she is at a hospital, and two nurses are helping her. They decide to do a cesarean.

When Petita wakes up from the surgery, she has a beautiful baby boy. She names her son Andrea.

Ten years later, Petita and her husband are at a park with Andrea. They see another girl. She and Andrea are identical. The other girl is with her grandparents. They are the doctors who did the cesarean.



4 DISCUSSION

Who do you think is telling the truth—Petita Peña or the doctors? Check (✓) your answer. Then explain your answer in a small group.

- ☐ I think Petita Peña is telling the truth.
- ☐ I think the doctors are telling the truth.
- ☐ I'm not sure.

5 WRITING

Play the game *Two Truths and a Lie* with your classmates. On the lines below, write three sentences about yourself—two that are true, and one that is a lie. Then read your sentences to the class. Can your classmates guess which sentence is a lie?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____