

SANTALAND 2

Before we proceed with listening and reading the SantaLand Diaries by David Sedaris, let's listen to a Christmas song and number the lines in order _____

___ And if you ever saw it
You would even say it glows

___ All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names

___ "Rudolph, with your nose so bright
Would you guide my sleigh tonight?"



___ Then how the reindeer loved him
As they shouted out with glee

___ Then one foggy Christmas Eve

Santa came to say

___ Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
Had a very shiny nose

___ "Rudy the Red-Nosed Reindeer
You'll go down in history"

___ They never let poor Rudy
Join in any reindeer games



What can you remember from the first part of the SantaLand Diaries? What do you think Elves' life is like?

1. Listen to the snippet once _____ How many Santa houses are there in SantaLand? Report back the description of the Santa houses. Now try to drag and drop the nouns and noun phrases into their places. Listen again and check.

a maze six houses a hidden camera a department store

LIVEWORKSHEETS

diversions a complex system of roots

candy canes dancing penguins the human intestinal tract



SantaLand is beautiful. It really is. It's a wonderland with 10,000 twinkling lights and _____ . People enter and walk through _____ , which affords views of mechanical _____ , train sets, spinning bears, and really big _____ . They walk through a quarter mile of maze and wind up at the Magic Tree, at which point they brace themselves for Santa.

The tree is a tunnel designed to resemble _____ . The child is supposed to think, "I can't believe I'm inside a tree." But instead, I think it looks like a large scientific model of _____ .



Once you pass the Magic Tree, the lights dim. It is dark beyond that tree. It is dark because Macy's does not want people to know that there are _____ . Macy's wants people to think that there is only one house, and one Santa, and he lives at Macy's.

They constantly refer to the movie *Miracle on 34th Street.* But even if someone believed in one Santa, why would they believe he lived in _____? Nobody lives in a department store. The Santa houses are cozy and intimate, laden with toys. Each house has _____ .

2. Read the names of the elf positions. Listen to the clip and order the Elves in order you hear them _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

__ Bridge Elf __ Magic Window Elf __ Maze Elf

__ Oh My God Elf __ Exit Elf __ Photo Elf

__ Entrance Elf __ Santa Elf __ Magic Tree Elf

__ Emergency Exit Elf __ Counter Elf __ Usher Elf

__ Pointer Elf __ Water Cooler Elf __ Train Elf

__ Island Elf __ Cash Register Elf

3. Listen to the snippets and imitate them in every possible way.

A. _____ We were given a demonstration of various positions in action, acted out by returning elves who were so on stage and goofy that it made me a little sick to my stomach.



B. _____ I don't know that I could look anyone in the eye and exclaim, "Oh, my goodness! I think I see Santa!"

C. _____ Or "Can you close your eyes and make a very special Christmas wish?"

D. _____ Everything these elves say seems to have an exclamation point on the end of it.



E. _____ It makes one's mouth hurt to speak with such forced merriment. It embarrasses me to hear people talk this way.

F. _____ I prefer being frank with children. I'm more likely to say, "You must be exhausted," or "I know a lot of people who would kill for that little waistline of yours."

G. _____ I'm afraid I won't be able to provide the enthusiasm Santa is asking for. I think I'll be a low-key sort of elf.

4.Listen to the snippet and match the parts of the chunks _____

elf dress	elf name
green velvet	forced delight
a forest green	little hat

LIVEWORKSHEETS

a perky	rehearsal
hat decorated	cartoon characters
to go by your	velvet smock
squeal with	knickers
behave like	with spangles

5.Listen and answer the questions _____



How many people came to see Santa that day?

What did David witness that day?

What do they do when the line gets long?

Why do they do that?

What does standing in two-hour line make people worry about?

What the woman was going to have David done?

What did David want to say to the woman?

Unjumble the questions from the snippet, then listen and check.



/ down escalator / to the / way/which/?

_____

/ elevator /which/ to the /way/?

_____

/ the line / women's bathroom / for the /which is /?

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

/they/ do these/ are /who/ people/ think/ ?

_____

6. Listen to the next SantaLand Diaries entry _____

Restore the direct speech:

I told Riley that if he didn't behave himself, Santa was going to take away his TV and all his electrical appliances and leave him in the dark. All your appliances, Riley, including the refrigerator.



Transform the lines into indirect speech reports.

The woman said, "Riley, if you don't start behaving yourself, Santa is not going to bring you any of those toys you asked for."

The child said, "He is too going to bring me toys, liar. He already told me."

The woman grabbed my arm and said, "You there, elf. Tell Riley here that if he doesn't start behaving immediately, then Santa is going to change his mind and bring him coal for Christmas."

[David said,] "Your food is going to spoil and smell bad. It is going to be so cold and dark where you are. You're going to wish you never even heard the name Santa."

The woman got a worried look on her face and said, "All right. That's enough."

I said, "He's going to take your car and your furniture and all of your towels and blankets and leave you with nothing."

If you were SantaLand Elf, what would you say to the kid?



7. Listen and order the lines _____

__ Two loud, ugly husbands with two wives and four children between them.

LIVEWORKSHEETS



__ The children gathered around Santa and had their pictures taken.

__ The man's small-breasted wife crossed her arms over her chest, looked at the floor, and gritted her teeth. The man's son tried to laugh.

__ Two New Jersey families came today to see Santa.

__ Then the husbands sat on Santa's lap. And when asked what he wanted for Christmas, one of the men yelled, "I want a broad with big jugs."

__ When Santa asked the 1o-year-old boy what he wanted for Christmas, his father shouted, "A woman. Get him a woman, Santa." These men were very loud and irritating, constantly laughing and jostling one another.

__ The two women sat on Santa's lap and had their pictures taken, and each asked Santa for a KitchenAid brand dishwasher and a decent winter coat.

8. Listen to the snippet and fill the gaps with verb forms _____



I've ____ elves from all walks of life. The recession has ____ New York very hard. Most of the other elves are show business people, but several of them had real jobs at advertising agencies and brokerage firms. _____ their hearts. These people never in their wildest dreams _____ there was a velvet costume _____ in their future. They are the really bitter elves. Most of the elves are young, high school and college students. They're young and they're cute, and one of the job perks is that I ____ to ____ these people in their underpants.

9. Listen to the snippet and fill the gaps with adjectives

_____



Out of all the Santas, two are _____ . And both are so _____ – _____ that, with a beard and makeup, you'd never know they weren't _____ . Yesterday, a _____ woman got upset after, having requested a Santa of color, she was sent to Will. "He's not black," the woman said. We assured the woman that, yes, he was black. And the woman said, "Well, he isn't black enough."

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Will is a _____ Santa, _____ and _____ . He spends a lot of time staring off into space. When a boss tells Will that we need to speed things up, Will gets _____ and says, "Listen, I'm playing a role here. Do you understand? A _____ role that takes a ____ deal of preparation."



I was the Pointer Elf this afternoon when a woman approached me and whispered, "We would like a _____ Santa. I'm sure you know what I'm talking about." I sent her to Will.

Last Saturday, Snowball was the Pointer and a woman said, "Last year we had a _____ Santa. Make sure it doesn't happen again." Snowball sent her to Will.

10. Try to find the correct place for each of the chunks. Then listen and check _____

straightened up takes himself a bit too seriously an elaborate little act should have to solo

if she had put out jingles his bell sash

don't want to sing out loud sit around the house and talk to Santa



This afternoon, I was stuck being Photo Elf for Santa Santa. I don't know his real name. No one does. During most days, there's a slow period when you _____ . And most of them are nice guys, and we sit around and laugh. But Santa Santa _____ . I asked him where he lives, Brooklyn or Manhattan. And he said, "Why, I live at the North Pole with Mrs. Claus." I asked what he does the rest of the year and he said, "I make toys for all the children." Santa Santa sits and waves and _____ when no one is there. He actually recited "The Night Before Christmas," and it was just the two of us in the house. No children, just us. He says, "Oh little elf, little elf. Straighten up those mantel toys for Santa." I reminded him that I have a name, Crumpet, and then I _____ the stuffed animals. "Oh little elf, little elf. Bring Santa a throat lozenge." So I brought him a lozenge.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Santa Santa has _____ for the children. He'll talk to them and give a hearty chuckle and ring his bells. And then he asks them to name their favorite Christmas carol. Most of them say "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Santa then asks if they'll sing it for him. The children are shy and _____ . So Santa Santa says, "Oh little elf, little elf. Help young Brenda here sing that favorite carol of hers." Then I have to stand there and sing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," which I hate.

Late in the afternoon, a child said she didn't know what her favorite Christmas carol was. Santa Santa suggested "Away in a Manger." The girl agreed to it but didn't want to sing because she didn't know the words. Santa Santa said, "Oh little elf, little elf. Come sing 'Away in a Manger' for us." It didn't seem fair that I _____ . So I told Santa that I didn't know the words. Santa Santa said, "Of course you know the words. Come now. Sing." So I sang it the way Billie Holiday might have sang _____ a Christmas album.



Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.

Santa Santa did not allow me to finish.



LIVEWORKSHEETS