

**Read the text**

Once upon a time in the quirky town of Wackyville, there lived a dorky inventor named Stanley. Stanley was always off the grid, buried deep in his workshop, coming up with wacky contraptions that often left the townsfolk scratching their heads.

One chilly winter day, as a blizzard threatened to turn Wackyville into a winter wonderland, Stanley bundled up in his thickest coat and ventured outside. He needed to gather some lumbar wood for his latest invention—a self-warming chair designed to soothe people's lower back pain.

As Stanley trudged through the snow, he stumbled upon a peculiar sight—a group of gun nuts engaged in a snowball fight. Their enthusiasm was unmatched as they handled hits with impeccable precision, ducking and dodging snowballs like seasoned soldiers.

Curiosity piqued, Stanley approached the group, his dorky demeanor on full display. "Mind if I take a chance to join in?" he asked with a hopeful smile.

The gun nuts exchanged puzzled glances, unsure if they should welcome this oddball into their frosty battlefield. But one gun nut named Randy, known for being an esteem-building parent to his fellow snow warriors, decided to give Stanley a shot.

"Sure, why not? But be warned, Stanley, this isn't your ordinary snowball fight. We're the best in town!" Randy boasted, trying to conceal his smirk.

Undeterred, Stanley grabbed a handful of snow and took aim. His first throw soared through the air, missing its target by a mile and landing with a soft thud in a snowbank.

Laughter erupted from the gun nuts, echoing through the winter air. Stanley blushed, feeling a twinge of embarrassment creep into his self-esteem. But he wouldn't let that dampen his spirits.

Determined to redeem himself, Stanley rolled up his sleeves and dove headfirst into the snowball chaos. He zigzagged across the battlefield, throwing snowballs left and right with wild abandon. His aim was as unpredictable as his inventions, but somehow, he managed to hit his opponents in the most unexpected ways.

Soon, the laughter turned into applause as Stanley's unorthodox tactics proved to be oddly effective. His shots ricocheted off trees, bounced off walls, and even landed on Randy's head, much to everyone's delight.

With each successful hit, Stanley's self-confidence grew, and his dorky charm won over the hearts of the gun nuts. They marveled at his resilience and celebrated his eccentricity.

As the blizzard subsided, leaving behind a snowy battlefield filled with laughter and camaraderie, Stanley emerged as the underdog who had conquered the snowball fight. He had not only won the respect of the gun nuts but also discovered a newfound belief in himself.

From that day on, Stanley's inventions became more audacious and inspired. The townsfolk of Wackyville eagerly awaited his wacky creations, knowing that each one would be a delightful surprise.

As for the gun nuts, they embraced their new teammate, realizing that sometimes, it takes an unconventional approach to win the day. They formed an unlikely alliance, sharing laughs and snowball fights in the winters to come.

And so, in the whimsical town of Wackyville, where even the snowball fights were extraordinary, Stanley's triumph became a legend, reminding everyone that self-confidence and a little bit of wackiness could turn the mundane into something truly magical.

Match words 1-11 with the definitions (a-k)

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. self-confidence | a. to dress warmly by wearing multiple layers of clothing |
| 2. handle a hit | b. belief in oneself and one's abilities to succeed |
| 3. take a chance to | c. relating to the lower part of the spine |
| 4. dork | d. a person who is socially awkward and has unusual interests, often related to technology or academic subjects |
| 5. lower back | e. living without reliance on public utilities such as electricity, water, or gas |
| 6. blizzard | f. a person who is obsessed with guns and firearms |
| 7. lumbar | g. to do something risky or uncertain in the hope of success or reward |
| 8. self-esteem | h. a severe snowstorm characterized by strong winds and low visibility |
| 9. gun nut | i. the area of the back between the ribs and the hips |
| 10. off the grid | j. one's overall sense of self-worth and value as a person |
| 11. bundle up | k. to manage or deal with the negative consequences of a difficult situation |