Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

The Case of the Missing Baseball Cap



(1) Billy's prized possession is his New York Yankees' baseball cap. It is navy blue, with the letters N and Y on the front. He wears it every day. If his mother would let him, he would even wear it to bed at night!

(2) Billy's father gave it to him a year ago. He brought it back from a business trip to New York. Billy grinned from ear to ear when he saw the cap. The Yankees have always been his favorite team. He and his father watch the games together every week during the baseball season.

(3) It all started during Carla's birthday party. She had a swimming party with all her closest friends from school. Emma was the first to arrive carrying a big package. Carla ripped the package open before her mother had a chance to stop her. It was filled with arts and crafts supplies. Carla is the best artist in their class and was thrilled with the present.

(4) Andrew arrived next with a sour expression on his face. He wasn't happy about being at the party. He wanted to stay home in his room and play video games. He was also upset because his mother bought Carla the same video game that he wanted for months. It just didn't seem fair to him.

(5) Ted's arrival came only a few minutes after Andrew. His present was a board game. Carla added the presents to her growing pile. Her mother told her that she couldn't open the rest of the presents until after the birthday cake.

(6) Billy was the last guest to arrive. He was sporting his Yankees baseball cap. "Do you ever take that thing off?" asked Carla with a grin.

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(7) "Why don't you kids go in the backyard for a swim?" suggested Carla's mother. She didn't have to ask them twice. All the kids went running through the slider into the backyard.

(8) Since he didn't want to get his baseball cap wet, Billy put it on a chair for safe-keeping. He hid it real fast before anyone could see him. The other children were busy getting ready to swim. He put his shorts and top over it, as well as his white towel. Then, he jumped in the pool with his friends.

(9) Billy loves Carla's pool. It has a diving board on one side, and a slide on the other. The kids played for hours. Billy's favorite pool game is Marco Polo. He talked his friends into playing that game. Carla didn't want to play at first, but after a dirty look from her mom, she consented.

(10) Later on, Carla's mother came out with the birthday cake and presents, and everyone sang. The cake was chocolate and delicious. Carla opened the rest of her presents and thanked everyone for their generosity.

(11) Everyone, including Billy, was dressed and ready to go when he realized he was missing his baseball cap. He looked back at the chair, but it was empty. "Oh no!" he screamed. "Has anyone seen my cap?" he asked frantically.

(12) "What cap?" asked Carla with a look of confusion.

(13) "What difference does it make?" asked Andrew with a frown. "It's just a stupid cap."

(14) "It may seem stupid to you," replied Billy, "but baseball is my life. My dad gave me that cap, and I want it back."

(15) "Don't look at me," said Ted, "I never even looked under your towel."

(16) "Maybe it fell in the pool?" suggested Emma. They all ran back to the pool, but the cap was nowhere to be found.

(17) Billy sat back and thought for a few minutes and figured out the mystery. "Hand it over!" he said with a look of determination in his eyes.

(18) The thief's punishment was to write a note of apology, and to promise never to steal again.

(19) Who stole the baseball cap?

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10. Where did Billy get his baseball cap?

A. He got it at his birthday party.
B. His friend Carla gave it to him.
C. His father brought it back from a business trip.
D. His mother ordered it from a business in New York City.

11. Billy's prized possession is his New York Yankees' baseball cap.

The word "possession" is something -

A. that is owned.
B. that is bought.
C. that is expensive.
D. that is old.

12. Which word BEST describes the relationship between Billy and his father?

A. angry
B. close
C. distant
D. silly

13. What present did Emma give Carla?

A. a video game
B. a board game
C. a baseball cap
D. an arts and crafts set

14. Which is the BEST adjective to describe Andrew?

A. grouchy
B. smart
C. caring
D. funny

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15. Who arrived directly after Andrew?

A. Billy
B. Emma
C. Ted
D. Carla

16. "Why don't you kids go in the backyard for a swim?" suggested Carla's mother. She didn't have to ask them twice.

What did the author mean with the words, "didn't have to ask them twice"?

A. The kids always have to be told things two times.
B. The kids are very excited about swimming in the pool.
C. No one wants to swim in the pool yet.
D. Carla's mother really wants them to swim in the pool.

17. Carla didn't want to play at first, but after a dirty look from her mom, she consented.

What does the word "consented" mean?

A. cried
B. smiled
C. agreed
D. left

18. Carla opened most of her birthday presents directly after -

A. everyone arrived.
B. they went swimming.
C. they played Marco Polo.
D. they ate birthday cake.

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19. Who is the BEST suspect for the crime?

A. Carla because she said she didn't know he had a cap.
B. Andrew because he is always in a bad mood.
C. Emma because she pretended it fell in the pool.
D. Ted because he knew it was hidden under the towel.

20. Which is the BEST theme for this story?

A. Be careful what you wish for.
B. Crime doesn't pay.
C. A boy loses a cap.
D. Friends are important.

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