

Extended Learning – RL4.3



The Karaoke Queen

by Audge Podge

"YOU AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A HOUND DOG . . . EATING ALL THE LIMES," Trish sang loudly.

"Cut it out, Trish!" yelled Jacob. "You are too loud, and you are not even singing it right. The words are 'crying all the time,' not 'eating all the limes.'"

"Well, I HAVE to practice!" answered Trish. "Mom and Dad bought me this karaoke machine for my birthday, and I intend to use it."

"Why must you punish me so?!"

"In a few years, I am going to try out for *American Idol*," Trish responded. "I HAVE to practice! Besides, Mom and Dad told me I had a beautiful singing voice—so there!" Trish said and stuck her tongue out at her brother. Then, she flipped the machine on and continued singing Elvis Presley's "Hound Dog." Jacob tightly covered his ears. Frightened by Trish's horrible singing, their cat quickly ran up the stairs.

The next day, Jacob called to Trish from the basement.

"What is up?" she asked.

"Well, I want to help you make it to the *American Idol* stage. I found an old crate in the garage. I turned it upside down, decorated it, and brought it down here so you could practice," said Jacob.

"This soundproof basement is a great place for a practice stage. Nobody will bother you down here."

"Oh, how cool! Thanks, but why are you being so nice all of sudden?" asked Trish.

"Well, if you do make it big, I do not want you to forget about me when you are rich and famous."

Jacob sighed in relief as Trish pranced around on her stage. Jacob climbed upstairs to the living room. With the peace and quiet that the stage provided, he took a nap with the cat on the sofa.

How is the main problem **solved** in this story?

- A. Trish learns the correct words to the song.
- B. The cat runs upstairs and naps under a bed.
- C. Jacob repairs Trish's broken karaoke machine.
- D. Jacob makes Trish a stage in the basement.

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Nature's Water Park by Audge Podge

"Rain, Rain, go away. Come back another day!" whined Melana and her sister, Kelly, as they stared at their soaked backyard.

"You two should go outside and play," said Mom.

"Mom, the weather is awful. Look! The rain is pouring," Melana said.

"So," said Mom.

"So?" the girls asked.

"The weather is warm, so you will not catch a cold. There is not any thunder or lightning to worry about," Mom explained. "This is the perfect time for both of you to play in the rain."

"Play in the rain?" Melana asked.

"Sure," said Mom. "Think of it as nature's water park. I especially like it because admission is free." Kelly and Melana stared at Mom to make sure she was serious, and Mom finally asked, "Well, what are you two waiting for?"

With that, Melana and Kelly scooted out the door. They danced around in the rain and splashed in puddles all afternoon. The rain made playing on the backyard swing even more fun. They never thought that a rainy day could be so exciting.

What is the main **problem** in the story above?

- A. Mom is angry because the girls track mud all through the house.
- B. The girls think that the rain will keep them from playing outside.
- C. The girls play in the rain, but they become scared of the lightning.
- D. Melana and Kelly are mad at Mom for making them play in the rain.