

TOP HAT TONY



Ever since Tony was a small boy, he wanted to be a truck driver like his father. Tony wished he were bigger so that he could drive his father's eighteen-wheel truck.

When Tony was a young kid, he pretended he was driving a big truck as he drove his little red toy truck down the neighborhood sidewalk. Tony always wore a red top hat. Tony waved his red top hat at the neighbors as he drove by. *"There goes Top Hat Tony, the truck driver,"* the neighbors exclaimed.

Sometimes, Tony rode along with his father in the eighteen-wheel truck. Tony waved his red top hat at all the other trucks he saw on the road. He waved his top hat at the police cars. He waved it at the gasoline, milk and lumber trucks. Tony waved his hat at the pickup trucks carrying fresh farm vegetables. He waved his top hat at the firefighters on the fire truck, too.

Tony's father said "Listen, a good truck driver has to be a good reader. We have to read well the driving rules and the road signs." Tony went to school and learned to read very well. Obviously, he liked to read everything about trucks. For example, he read about how milk trucks are refrigerated to keep the milk cold.

After graduating from high school, Tony went to a truck driving school and did other studies. He learned how to drive all sizes of trucks. Tony read the driver's manual carefully, practiced driving different trucks, and passed all the driving tests without problem. Tony received his truck driver's license issued to *Top Hat Tony, the truck driver* five years ago. Now, as Tony drives his eighteen-wheel truck down the street to the highway, he waves his red top hat. *"There goes Top Hat Tony, the truck driver,"* the neighbors exclaim.

Based on the story, answer the following questions. (Taken and adapted from VENTRIGLIA, L. *Opening Doors C. Reading and writing activities*. Richmond Publishing)

1. **This story was written to tell —**
 - a. How to drive different trucks.
 - b. How famous a man was in his town.
 - c. How to reach dreams.
 - d. How a person became a truck driver.
2. **When Tony was a child, he made others believe—**
 - a. he wore a red top hat.
 - b. he could drive a real truck.
 - c. he could read very well at school.
 - d. he was a happy kid next to his father.
3. **What did Tony do with his father?**
 - a. They waved red their hats.
 - b. They traveled together.
 - c. They read the road signs together.
 - d. They practiced driving different trucks.
4. **What was Tony's father advice?**
 - a. To learn to read well.
 - b. To buy an 18-wheel truck.
 - c. To get a driver's license.
 - d. To graduate from high school.
5. **Based on the story, what was Tony like?**
 - a. Fast-thinking, attentive, and creative
 - b. Relaxed, smart, and happy
 - c. Friendly, hard-working, and committed
 - d. Lovely, funny, and careful
6. **Another good title for this story is –**
 - a. Tony's Favorite Hobby
 - b. My Dad's Job
 - c. Living a Dream
 - d. My Truck is My Friend

Decide if the following statements are TRUE (T), FALSE (F) or NOT MENTIONED (NM).

7. Tony attended college. _____
8. Tony's dad drove a big truck. _____
9. Tony failed his driving test. _____
10. Tony can drive any truck. _____
11. Tony's father gave him a truck. _____
12. Tony's license expired 5 years ago. _____

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