

Name: _____.

Class/Group: _____

Read the story below and then answer the questions following it.

Surprise!

Jerry and Emma are husband and wife. It's summer, and Jerry's birthday is approaching. Emma wants to give him a present for his birthday, but she wants it to be a surprise, so she must keep everything a secret.

But she has a big problem. If Jerry cannot know about her plan, how does *she* find out what to get him for his birthday?

She decides to use a secret technique. For a whole week, while she pretends to do other things, she actually listens very carefully for clues.

However, Jerry doesn't really talk about this subject. A whole week passes with no mention of something he actually wants or needs!

"That's it!" Emma thinks to herself. "Jerry's birthday is tomorrow! I'm taking off the gloves!"

She calls her sister-in-law Mary, and they make a secret plan.

Mary will call Jerry, ask him what he would like to receive for his birthday, and Emma will listen to the conversation (without Jerry knowing it).

The scheme starts out as planned. Mary calls Jerry, and they have a nice chat about his upcoming birthday. Emma listens carefully from the other room.

Finally, she hears what he wants—a pair of sneakers!

"All right!" she thinks to herself.

Full of excitement, she runs out of the room. She is not so quiet, but who can blame her?

She rushes off to the shop and buys a pair of shiny sneakers, exactly Jerry's size. She's very happy. She will get him the present he wants, and it will be a complete surprise!

Today is Jerry's birthday. Emma waits until their special dinner at night.

Finally, the moment arrives. It's time for Jerry's present!

Emma brings in the box of sneakers, wrapped in colorful paper.

"Wow!" Jerry says with a big smile. "I wonder what it is."

"Open it and see for yourself!" Emma replies happily.

He tears off the colorful paper and takes out the box. He opens the box.

"Oh, it's a . . . pair of sneakers! What a lovely . . . surprise . . ."

Emma notices that something is wrong. "What's the matter? You don't seem so happy. Don't you *need* a pair of sneakers?"

"Hmm. . ." Jerry takes a look at each shoe.

"Well, didn't you tell Mary that you wanted a pair of sneakers?" Emma asks him.

"A pair of sneakers?" Jerry starts to laugh. "I said a pair of *speakers*! You seem surprised. Well, I guess I could use a pair of sneakers, too!"

Exercises

Vocabulary

This is a copy of the original story. Go over it and fill in the blanks with the right words from the box below.

technique, carefully, birthday, shiny, yourself, sneakers, Today, gloves, problem, wonder, tomorrow, complete, However, pair, plan, laugh, subject, matter, in law, receive, wife, scheme, thinks, clues, present, wrapped, until, tears, conversation, secret, notices, what, wanted, Finally, each, pretends, excitement

Jerry and Emma are husband and _____. It's summer, and Jerry's _____ is approaching. Emma wants to give him a _____ for his birthday, but she wants it to be a surprise, so she must keep everything a _____.

But she has a big _____. If Jerry cannot know about her plan, how does *she* find out _____ to get him for his birthday?

She decides to use a secret _____. For a whole week, while she _____ to do other things, she actually listens very carefully for _____.

_____, Jerry doesn't really talk about this _____. A whole week passes with no mention of something he actually wants or needs!

"That's it!" Emma thinks to herself. "Jerry's birthday is _____! I'm taking off the _____!"

She calls her sister-_____ Mary, and they make a secret _____.

Mary will call Jerry, ask him what he would like to _____ for his birthday, and Emma will listen to the _____ (without Jerry knowing it).

The _____ starts out as planned. Mary calls Jerry, and they have a nice chat about his upcoming birthday. Emma listens _____ from the other room.

Finally, she hears what he wants—a _____ of sneakers!

"All right!" she _____ to herself.

Full of _____, she runs out of the room. She is not so quiet, but who can blame her?

She rushes off to the shop and buys a pair of _____ sneakers, exactly Jerry's size. She's very happy. She will get him the present he wants, and it will be a _____ surprise!

_____ is Jerry's birthday. Emma waits _____ their special dinner at night.

_____, the moment arrives. It's time for Jerry's present!

Emma brings in the box of sneakers, _____ in colorful paper.

"Wow!" Jerry says with a big smile. "I _____ what it is."

"Open it and see for _____!" Emma replies happily.

He _____ off the colorful paper and takes out the box. He opens the box.

"Oh, it's a . . . pair of _____! What a lovely . . . surprise . . ."

Emma _____ that something is wrong. "What's the _____? You don't seem so happy. Don't you *need* a pair of sneakers?"

"Hmm." Jerry takes a look at _____ shoe.

"Well, didn't you tell Mary that you _____ a pair of sneakers?" Emma asks him.

"A pair of sneakers?" Jerry starts to _____. "I said a pair of *speakers*! You seem surprised. Well, I guess I could use a pair of sneakers, too!"

Grammar—Sentence Structure

The following sentences are all mixed up. Put the words on each line in the correct order to make a logical sentence.

1. are wife Emma Jerry and husband and.

2. everything keep Emma must secret a.

3. clues She very listens for carefully.

4. sister-in-law Mary make plan She her calls they a secret and.

5. birthday his calls about and have a chat Jerry upcoming they Mary.

6. shiny buys sneakers She to shop and a pair of the rushes Jerry's size off.

7. birthday Jerry's Today is.

8. dinner waits special at their Emma night until.

9. is I what it wonder.

10. I too of guess pair use I a sneakers could Well.

Grammar—Questions, Negative Sentences, and Positive Sentences

Remember:

A positive sentence: Jerry and Emma are husband and wife.

A negative sentence: Jerry and Emma are not husband and wife.

A question: Are Jerry and Emma husband and wife?

A positive sentence: Emma listens carefully.

A negative sentence: Emma does not listen carefully.

A question: Does Emma listen carefully?

A positive sentence: She should keep it a secret.

A negative sentence: She should not keep it a secret.

A question: Should she keep it a secret?

Turn the following sentences into questions.

1. Jerry has a birthday.

2. Emma wants to buy Jerry a present.

3. Emma can listen to their conversation.

4. Jerry needs speakers.

5. Emma is surprised.

Turn the following sentences into negative sentences.

1. Mary has a birthday.

2. Does Jerry want sneakers?

3. Emma should tell the truth.

4. Are they very surprised?

5. Jerry wonders what is inside the box.

Turn the following sentences into positive sentences.

1. Emma doesn't have a birthday.

2. Jerry doesn't know about Emma's plan.

3. Does Mary help Emma?

4. Emma doesn't buy flowers.

5. Do Mary and Jerry talk?

Comprehension

Answer the following questions.

1. Why doesn't Emma ask Jerry what he wants for his birthday?

2. Who is Mary?

3. What secret plan do Emma and Mary make?

4. Does Jerry really need a pair of sneakers?

Writing: Answer the following questions. Write a short paragraph for each.

1. How do you decide what birthday present to buy for someone?

2. Have you ever received a gift you did not want or need? What did you do about it?
