

Characters:**DAD**
ANGELA**NATE****BROOKLYN****ACT 1, SCENE 1**

- 1 *{When the curtain opens, the audience sees a campfire pit set up in the middle of the stage with four empty lawn chairs surrounding it. There are also two tents set up, one to the left of the campfire and one a short distance away to the right. Nate unzips the tent on the left and crawls out. Brooklyn and Dad follow Nate out of the tent. They walk toward the lawn chairs, and sit down.}*
- 2 **DAD:** *(cheerfully)* Are you ready to hike a couple miles today?
- 3 **BROOKLYN:** Yes! I love hiking!
- 4 **NATE:** I'm ready to go now! Do you think Angela is almost ready to go?
- 5 **DAD:** I'm not sure. Let me go check on her.
- 6 *{Dad stands up and walks over to the tent on the right. He tries to knock, but it obviously doesn't make a sound. Brooklyn and Nate giggle.}*
- 7 **DAD:** Angela? How are you doing in there? Are you almost ready to leave on our hike?
- 8 **ANGELA:** *(her voice is coming from inside the zipped up tent)* I'm still putting on my makeup, but I'm getting close to being ready! Will you come in and help me clasp this necklace?
- 9 *{When Nate and Brooklyn hear the term "makeup", they look at each other and roll their eyes. Dad unzips the tent and stoops inside.}*
- 10 **NATE:** *(whispering loudly)* Are you kidding me? She's putting on makeup to go *hiking*?
- 11 **BROOKLYN:** *(whispering loudly)* And who worries about *jewelry* when they're camping?
- 12 **NATE:** *(sighing)* I guess we shouldn't be surprised. She *did* drag along three pink suitcases, after all.
- 13 **BROOKLYN:** *(giggling)* When I saw those suitcases, I about died!
- 14 **NATE:** Why did Dad have to bring his girlfriend on our camping trip? She's going to ruin *everything*.
- 15 *{Just then, Angela and Dad emerge from the tent. Angela is wearing dressy shorts, a silk shirt, and lots of jewelry. She is also wearing brand-new white tennis shoes. She pumps one spray of perfume onto the front of her shirt, and then carefully sets the perfume back in her tent.}*
- 16 **ANGELA:** Good morning, kids! I just can't wait to see what today has in store for us! I've never gone hiking before! I even bought some new sneakers so I can keep up with you three.
- 17 **NATE:** Dad, since Angela has never gone hiking before, we should probably tell her what to do if she sees a bear or a mountain lion along the trail.
- 18 *{Angela's smile immediately disappears.}*

19 **BROOKLYN:** That's a good point, Nate! If you see a mountain lion, Angela, you should *never* turn and run. Instead, you should stand tall and make yourself look bigger. Then, you should back away, like this.

20 *{Brooklyn stands on her tiptoes and lifts the sides of her jacket. She backs up.}*

21 **DAD:** *(laughing nervously)* Oh, we don't have to worry about seeing mountain lions or bears on our hike. Mountain lions and bears steer clear of well-traveled trails.

22 **NATE:** But like you always tell us, Dad, it's good to be prepared.

23 **BROOKLYN:** By the way, I heard some other campers talking yesterday at the bathhouse, and there's a skunk roaming in the area. We *definitely* don't want to run across that thing. We'll stink for *days* if a skunk sprays us!

24 *{Angela's eyes grow wide and she gasps.}*

25 **ANGELA:** Oh my! That would be my worst nightmare!

26 *{Brooklyn and Nate grin at each other. Dad gives both kids a long, hard stare.}*

27 **DAD:** *(gritting his teeth)* Let's stop trying to frighten Angela, shall we? Grab your backpacks and let's head out. Nate, you lead the way. I'll be the caboose.

28 *{The four of them strap on their backpacks and file off the stage. The curtain closes.}*

ACT 1, SCENE 2

29 *{When the curtain opens, the audience sees the same campsite. The four hikers are now filing back onto the stage. Angela's hair is a mess now, and one of her shoes is caked with a brown substance. She is itching all over.}*

30 **BROOKLYN:** That was so much fun! I can't believe we saw a bald eagle!

31 **NATE:** Yeah, I had a blast, too! It's a bummer that you stepped in that horse manure, Angela. I guess when we were warning you about mountain lions, bears, and skunks, we forgot to mention that people ride horses on these trails, too. You really have to watch out for that stuff.

32 **DAD:** *(annoyed)* Since you were in the front, Nate, you were in the best position to see it. You should have warned the rest of us that it was there.

33 **BROOKLYN:** Look on the bright side, Angela! At least we didn't get sprayed by a skunk! It's way easier to throw away a pair of sneakers than it is to wash away the odor of a skunk!

34 *{Angela remains silent. She has a scowl on her face.}*

35 **DAD:** *(turning to Angela)* Let me go check my bag and see if I have any hydrocortisone cream. That might help with the itching.

36 *{Dad enters his tent. The other three sit down on a chair.}*

37 **BROOKLYN:** It's too bad that you didn't put bug repellent on before we left. You got eaten alive! The mosquitos must have been attracted to your good-smelling perfume.

38 **NATE:** Don't worry, Angela, things will get better now. After we eat lunch, we always go down to the lake. There are leeches in the lake sometimes, but if you see one attached to your skin and sucking your blood, you just slide your fingernail under the leech's sucker to remove it. It only hurts a little.

39 {Angela looks horrified. Dad returns from the tent holding a tube of hydrocortisone cream.}

40 **DAD:** Once you rub this stuff on your bites, you won't feel so itchy.

41 **ANGELA:** I hope you don't mind, Greg, but I think I'm going to head out. Camping just isn't my cup of tea.

42 {Nate does a tiny fist pump and Brooklyn smiles. Dad and Angela do not notice their reactions.}

43 **DAD:** (*disappointed*) I understand. We'll pack things up and return home.

44 **ANGELA:** No, that won't be necessary. If you just drive me and my bags to the park entrance, I'll call someone to drive me home. I don't want to ruin the weekend for the rest of you.

45 {Angela gets up and heads for her tent, and Dad follows. They get her three suitcases and set them outside the tent.}

46 **DAD:** Come along, you two. I can't leave you here by yourselves. You can each carry one suitcase to the car.

47 {The four of them file off the stage. Dad is carrying a suitcase. Brooklyn and Nate both try to lift a suitcase, but it is too heavy, so they drag it offstage. The curtain closes.}

1. Which of the following is an accurate list of actors and actresses needed to perform this play?
 - A. one adult male, two young females, one young male
 - B. two adult males, two adult females
 - C. two young females, two young males
 - D. one adult male, one adult female, one young female, one young male
2. Which of the following lines indicates that Nate and Brooklyn resent the fact that Angela is camping with them?
 - A. I'm ready to go now. Do you think Angela is almost ready?
 - B. Why did Dad have to bring his girlfriend on our camping trip? She's going to ruin everything.
 - C. But like you always tell us, Dad, it's good to be prepared.
 - D. Look on the bright side, Angela! At least we didn't get sprayed by a skunk!
3. Which of the following lines shows figurative language that is correctly identified?
 - A. I'll be the caboose. (*personification*)
 - B. We'll stink for *days* if that skunk sprays us. (*hyperbole*)
 - C. And you should back away, like this. (*simile*)
 - D. When I saw those suitcases, I about died! (*hyperbole*)
4. The stage directions located at line 15 are important because they highlight the fact that—
 - A. Angela does not understand much about camping.
 - B. Angela does not know how to interact with kids.
 - C. Angela should not be trusted.

5. **19 BROOKLYN:** That's a good point, Nate! If you see a mountain lion, Angela, you should never turn and run. Instead, you should stand tall and make yourself look bigger. And you should back away, like this.
- 23 **BROOKLYN:** By the way, I heard some other campers talking yesterday at the bathhouse, and there's a skunk roaming in the area. We *definitely* don't want to run across that thing. We'll stink for *days* if that thing sprays us!
- 38 **NATE:** Don't worry, Angela, things will get better now. After we eat lunch, we always go down to the lake. There are leeches in the lake sometimes, but if you see one attached to your skin and sucking your blood, you just slide your fingernail under the leech's sucker to remove it. It only hurts a little.

What is the main purpose for the above lines?

- A. The playwright wants the audience to understand that Nate and Brooklyn are truly concerned about Angela.
- B. The playwright wants the audience to feel sorry for Angela.
- C. The playwright wants the audience to understand that Nate and Brooklyn are trying to scare Angela.
- D. The playwright wants to teach the audience what to do if they ever encounter a mountain lion, skunk, or leech.

6. Which stage direction shows that Dad knows what his kids are doing, and is not happy about it?

- A. Line 2- (*cheerfully*)
- B. Line 21- (*laughing nervously*)
- C. Line 27- (*gritting his teeth*)
- D. Line 43- (*disappointed*)

7. According to the stage directions in line 29, Angela's shoe is caked with a brown substance. What is the brown substance?

- A. mud
- B. dirt
- C. horse manure
- D. skunk spray

8. What does the idiom in line 41 mean?

- A. Dad will be at the back of the line.
- B. Angela does not enjoy camping.
- C. Angela does not like to drink tea when she goes camping.
- D. They look like a train when they walk in a single file line.

9. Which of these items is mentioned by the characters, but not actually seen by the audience?

- A. a bottle of perfume
- B. Angela's necklace
- C. three pink suitcases
- D. a bald eagle

10. Which statement tells what happened behind the closed curtain between the first and second scenes?

- A. The character playing Angela had to make her hair look messy and put a brown substance on her shoe.
- B. They had to completely change the scene.
- C. They had to add a lake in the background.
- D. They had to put a car on the stage.

11. Which stage direction helped the audience know how Brooklyn and Nate felt near the end of the play?

- A. line 39
- B. line 42
- C. line 45
- D. line 47

38 **NATE:** Don't worry, Angela, things will get better now. After we eat lunch, we always go down to the lake. There are leeches in the lake sometimes, but if you see one attached to your skin and sucking your blood, you just slide your fingernail under the leech's sucker to remove it. It only hurts a little.

39 {Angela looks horrified. Dad returns from the tent holding a tube of hydrocortisone cream.}

40 **DAD:** Once you rub this stuff on your bites, you won't feel so itchy.

41 **ANGELA:** I hope you don't mind, Greg, but I think I'm going to head out. Camping just isn't my cup of tea.

42 {Nate does a tiny fist pump and Brooklyn smiles. Dad and Angela do not notice their reactions.}

43 **DAD:** (disappointed) I understand. We'll pack things up and return home.

44 **ANGELA:** No, that won't be necessary. If you just drive me and my bags to the park entrance, I'll call someone to drive me home. I don't want to ruin the weekend for the rest of you.

45 {Angela gets up and heads for her tent and Dad follows. They get her three suitcases and set them outside the tent.}

46 **DAD:** Come along, you two. I can't leave you here by yourselves. You can each carry one suitcase to the car.

47 {The four of them file off the stage. Dad is carrying a suitcase. Brooklyn and Nate both try to lift a suitcase, but it is too heavy, so they drag it offstage. The curtain closes.}

ANSWER KEY

- Which of the following is an accurate list of actors and actresses needed to perform this play?
 - one adult male, two young females, one young male
 - two adult males, two adult females
 - two young females, two young males
 - D. one adult male, one adult female, one young female, one young male
- Which of the following lines indicates that Nate and Brooklyn resent the fact that Angela is camping with them?
 - I'm ready to go now. Do you think Angela is almost ready?
 - B. Why did Dad have to bring his girlfriend on our camping trip? She's going to ruin everything.
 - But like you always tell us, Dad, it's good to be prepared.
 - Look on the bright side, Angela! At least we didn't get sprayed by a skunk!
- Which of the following lines shows figurative language that is correctly identified?
 - I'll be the caboose. (*personification*)
 - We'll stink for *days* if that skunk sprays us. (*hyperbole*)
 - And you should back away, like this. (*simile*)
 - D. When I saw those suitcases, I about died! (*hyperbole*)
- The stage directions located at line 15 are important because they highlight the fact that—
 - A. Angela does not understand much about camping.
 - Angela does not know how to interact with kids.
 - Angela should not be trusted.

5. 19 **BROOKLYN:** That's a good point, Nate! If you see a mountain lion, Angela, you should never turn and run. Instead, you should stand tall and make yourself look bigger. And you should back away, like this.

23 **BROOKLYN:** I don't know, I heard some other campers talking yesterday at the bathhouse, and there's a skunk hanging in the area. We *definitely* don't want to run across that thing. We'll stink for days if it happens—prays us!

31 **NATE:** Don't worry, Angela, things will get better now. After we eat lunch, we always go down to the lake. There are leeches in the lake sometimes, but if you see one attached to your skin and sucking your blood, you just slide your fingernail under the leech's sucker to remove it. It only hurts a little.

What is the main purpose for the above lines?

- A. The playwright wants the audience to understand that Nate and Brooklyn are truly concerned about Angela.
- B. The playwright wants the audience to feel sorry for Angela.
- C. The playwright wants the audience to understand that Nate and Brooklyn are trying to scare Angela.
- D. The playwright wants to teach the audience what to do if they ever encounter a mountain lion, skunk, or leech.
6. Which stage direction shows that Dad knows what his kids are doing, and is not happy about it?
- A. Line 2- (*cheerfully*)
- B. Line 21- (*laughing nervously*)
- C. Line 27- (*gritting his teeth*)
- D. Line 43- (*disappointed*)
7. According to the stage directions in line 29, Angela's shoe is caked with a brown substance. What is the brown substance?
- A. mud
- B. dirt
- C. horse manure
- D. skunk spray
8. What does the idiom in line 41 mean?
- A. Dad will be at the back of the line.
- B. Angela does not enjoy camping.
- C. Angela does not like to drink tea when she goes camping.
- D. They look like a train when they walk in a single file line.
9. Which of these items is mentioned by the characters, but not actually seen by the audience?
- A. a bottle of perfume
- B. Angela's necklace
- C. three pink suitcases
- D. a bald eagle
10. Which statement tells what happened behind the closed curtain between the first and second scenes?
- A. The character playing Angela had to make her hair look messy and put a brown substance on her shoe.
- B. They had to completely change the scene.
- C. They had to add a lake in the background.
- D. They had to put a car on the stage.
11. Which stage direction helped the audience know how Brooklyn and Nate felt near the end of the play?
- A. line 39
- B. line 42
- C. line 45
- D. line 47