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A Promise Is a Promise!

By Kelly Hashway

Lance practically ran home from the bus stop. His 17-year-old brother Nathan had promised to take him to the new skate park today.

“Lance, wait up!” called Haley, running behind him.

“I can’t,” Lance yelled over his

shoulder. “Nathan’s taking me to the skate park this afternoon.”

“But you promised we’d work on our science project today.”

“We’ll do it tomorrow.” Lance picked up the pace, not giving Haley another thought. He ran inside the house and

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grabbed his skate gear from the closet. He was so excited he put his elbow pads and knee guards on even though Nathan wasn't home yet.

"Hey, little bro," Nathan said, walking through the door. "Ready to go?"

Lance held his arms out. "Ready!"

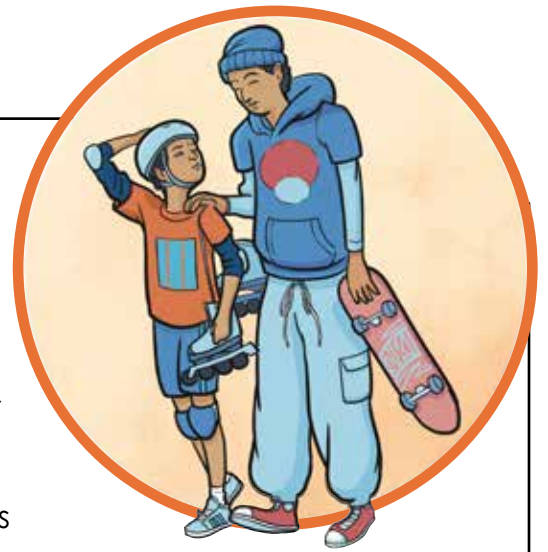
"Who's that?" Nathan asked, pointing out the window.

Lance saw Haley sitting by the mailbox. "Oh man, what's she doing

tickets to a minor league baseball game for tonight."

Lance's face fell. "You're going to the ball game? What about the skate park?"

Nathan ruffled Lance's hair. "We'll go tomorrow. You don't mind, right?"



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"So you promised her you'd work on it today, but then you got a better offer and canceled on her?"

"You're making it sound worse than it is. I'm still doing the project with her, just not today."

Nathan nodded. "I'll get my car keys. Wait here."

Lance couldn't stand still as he waited. When Nathan walked back into the room, he was on the phone.

"Great! I'll be right there." Nathan hung up the phone. "You're never going to believe this, but Scott got

"Nope. I just thought you should see how Haley is feeling."

Lance looked out the window. Haley was still sitting by the mailbox. "I'll go get her and work on the project."

"Good for you," Nathan said. "And ask her if she wants to go to the skate park after you're finished."

"Really? You'd take us?"

"Of course. I promised."

Lance nodded. "And a promise is a promise."

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1. Lance was looking forward to...
 - a. working on a science project
 - b. going to a baseball game
 - c. going to a skate park
 - d. spending time with Haley
2. When does this story take place?



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4. Is Nathan a good influence on his younger brother Lance? Explain.

5. If Lance is 9 years old, Nathan is about...
 - a. 8 years older
 - b. 6 years older
 - c. 5 years older
 - d. 3 years older

Tell how you found the answer to the question above.

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A Promise Is a Promise!

The following terms are vocabulary words from the story. Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.



1. ____ grabbed a. an agreement to do something
2. ____ elbow b. pieces of paper or digital documents that

A banner featuring a cartoon superhero character on the left. The character is wearing a red cape with 'MJS' on it, a blue suit, and a blue mask. He is flying through a blue sky with white clouds. On the right side of the banner, the word 'Preview' is written in large red letters. Below it, the text reads: 'Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.'

5. ____ canceled e. hole in a wall covered with clear glass
6. ____ tickets f. decided not to do something
7. ____ window g. joint that allows your arm to bend in the middle
8. ____ promise h. pads worn to protect the knees

❖ **Now try this:** Highlight each vocabulary word in the story.

Name: _____

A Promise Is a Promise!

In the story, "A Promise Is a Promise!", Lance almost breaks a promise to work on a science project with Haley. He'd rather go to the skate park with his brother.

Write about a time when you promised something to someone. Explain why you would not want to break your promise.





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ANSWER KEY

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1. Lance was looking forward to...
- a. working on a science project

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c. 5 years older

d. 3 years older

Tell how you found the answer to the question above.

Nathan is 17. Subtract 9 from 17.

ANSWER KEY

A Promise Is a Promise!

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◆ **Now try this:** Highlight each vocabulary word in the story.