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The Amazing Prize for Terrible Manners

Read carefully to discover what the 'prize' really is.

Elliana and Ari usually liked going to Nana and Papa's house. Nana had snacks, Papa had stories, and both grandparents knew how to turn an ordinary afternoon into something fun. But on this visit, the twins acted as if they were competing in the Terrible Manners Championship - a contest nobody had agreed to hold.

First, they ignored directions. When Nana asked them to lower their voices, they became louder. When Papa said it was time to put something away, they acted as if his words had floated past them wearing invisible roller skates. Then they used swear words again and again, even after Nana and Papa clearly told them to stop.

Next came the insults. They made fun of Nana's and Papa's appearances. One comment was about Nana having a saggy butt. The twins laughed, but Nana did not. A joke is not kind just because the person saying it laughs. Making someone feel embarrassed about a body, face, hair, age, or clothing is an insult - especially after that person has welcomed you into a home and is taking care of you.

Ari also handled a doll in an inappropriate way involving its private parts. Adults had already explained this rule before: private parts are private, and toys and bodies must be treated respectfully. If a child is curious or confused about a body, the right choice is to stop and ask a trusted adult privately. Repeating the behavior after a warning was not an accident; it was choosing not to follow a safety rule.

By the end of the visit, Nana and Papa looked worn out. They loved Elliana and Ari, but love does not mean adults must accept swearing, insults, unsafe behavior, or nonstop disobedience. Watching children is a responsibility. If the twins made every visit exhausting and disrespectful, Nana and Papa might not be able to watch them as often.

That was when the twins learned about their 'amazing prize.' On days when Vanessa needed time to finish errands or work, the twins might have to attend a supervised day program instead. It would be safe, but it would have more rules, less freedom, and none of the special Nana-and-Papa fun. The prize for making a fun visit miserable was... a less-fun place with even more structure. Ari blinked. Elliana frowned. This was the worst prize in championship history.

The twins could not erase what happened, but they could repair it. They could give honest apologies that named what they did, listen without arguing, and show changed behavior on the next visit. They could use respectful words, keep comments about other people's bodies to themselves, obey private-part safety rules, and follow directions the first time. Trust would not return because of one quick 'sorry.' It would return when their choices repeatedly showed Nana and Papa that spending time together could be safe, respectful, and fun again.

Respect reset: Stop. Listen. Use kind words. Follow safety rules. Repair harm with changed behavior.

Fun grows when other people can trust my choices.

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Circle the best answer.

Questions 1-10

1 Why did the story call the twins' behavior a championship?

- A. They were really competing for a trophy.
- B. They made many poor choices, as if trying to be the worst behaved.
- C. Nana entered them in a contest.
- D. Papa wanted them to practice a sport.

6 What was the twins' 'amazing prize'?

- A. A day program with more rules and less freedom.
- B. A new doll and a trophy.
- C. Extra time at Nana and Papa's house.
- D. A trip to an amusement park.

2 What did the twins do after Nana asked them to lower their voices?

- A. They whispered.
- B. They went outside.
- C. They became louder.
- D. They apologized.

7 Which happened immediately before the twins learned about the day program?

- A. They won a real championship.
- B. They followed every direction.
- C. Nana and Papa looked worn out after the difficult visit.
- D. Vanessa canceled the day program.

3 Why was the comment about Nana's body not a kind joke?

- A. It made Nana feel embarrassed and insulted.
- B. It was too quiet to hear.
- C. Nana had already heard the joke.
- D. Papa told a funnier joke.

8 What does 'repair' mean in the final paragraph?

- A. Pretend the problem never happened.
- B. Try to make things right after causing harm.
- C. Fix a broken toy with glue.
- D. Explain why the adults were wrong.

4 What should a child do when curious or confused about a private body part?

- A. Make a joke in front of everyone.
- B. Ignore every adult warning.
- C. Touch a toy's private parts again.
- D. Stop and ask a trusted adult privately.

9 Why is one quick apology not enough to rebuild trust?

- A. Trust returns only when better choices continue over time.
- B. Apologies are never useful.
- C. Nana and Papa cannot hear well.
- D. The twins must first win a prize.

5 Why might Nana and Papa be unable to watch the twins as often?

- A. Their house has no snacks.
- B. The twins' behavior made visits exhausting and disrespectful.
- C. They do not love the twins.
- D. The day program asked them to stop.

10 Which sentence best states the main lesson?

- A. Swearing is acceptable when a visit feels boring.
- B. Insults are funny if two children laugh.
- C. Poor behavior can remove fun choices; respect and repeated better choices rebuild trust.
- D. Children should never visit grandparents.

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Complete this page before checking the answers.

Be specific and honest. A real reset explains what will change, not only what went wrong.

1 What did I say or do at Nana and Papa's house that was disrespectful?

2 Which directions or warnings did I choose not to follow?

3 How might my words and actions have made Nana and Papa feel?

4 What fun opportunity could I lose if Nana and Papa cannot comfortably watch me?

5 What specific apology or repair do I need to make?

6 List three choices I will make during the next visit to rebuild trust.

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Reading Answers

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. A |
| 2. C | 7. C |
| 3. A | 8. B |
| 4. D | 9. A |
| 5. B | 10. C |

Adult Check-In

- ☐ Both the insult and the repeated swearing were named honestly.
- ☐ The ignored directions and repeated warning were identified.
- ☐ The private-part rule was understood: stop, keep it private, and ask a trusted adult.
- ☐ The child explained how the behavior affected Nana and Papa.
- ☐ The apology names the behavior without excuses or blame.
- ☐ The next-visit plan includes specific, observable better choices.

Trust-rebuilding plan

Apology or repair completed: _____

Next opportunity to demonstrate changed behavior: _____

Adult notes: _____