

Read the story “How to Act.” Then answer Numbers 1 through 10.

How to Act

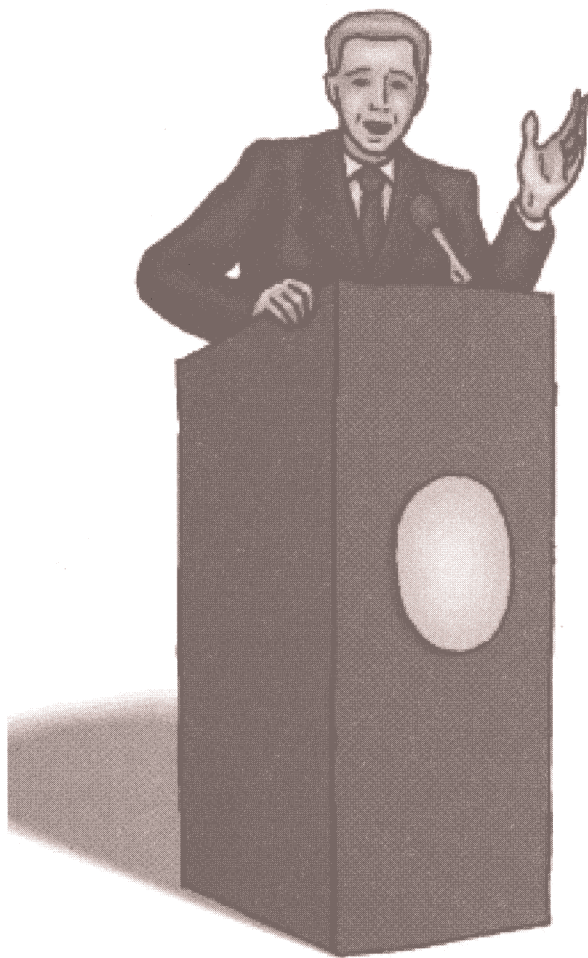
“This newspaper article says there will be an actor at the recreation center today. His name is Chester Suarez. He will talk about how an actor learns to act,” Tim’s mother said.

Tim’s eyes grew wide. He was very interested in acting, but he did not have any training. “Can I go listen to him talk?” he asked.

“Of course! We’ll leave after lunch,” answered his mother. She was happy Tim was interested in acting. She thought it would help him do better in school.

Later that day, Tim and his mother sat in folding chairs and listened to Chester Suarez speak. He talked about how he had decided to become an actor after watching his older sister in a play.

“It was magical,” Mr. Suarez said. “When I was eight, I saw my sister up on stage in a school play.



She was wearing a costume and pretending to be an older woman. It was very strange. She was the same sister I had always known. But she was also this very different person. It was as if I had never seen her before.”

Mr. Suarez spoke some more about acting. He also told a few amusing stories that made people laugh. Then he asked if there were any questions.

Tim’s mother nudged him. “Why don’t you ask Mr. Suarez a question?”

Tim felt a little shy, but he worked up his courage. He raised

his hand just a little. “How do you get ideas for acting like a different person?”

Mr. Suarez smiled. “That’s a good question! The key to acting is to figure out your character. First, you think about what kind of person he or she is. Then, you try to compare that character to people you have known. Sometimes it helps if you can find someone you have met that is like the character you have to play.”

Tim nodded. What Mr. Suarez said made sense to him. He had a feeling that he would take Mr. Suarez’s advice someday.



NAME _____

Date _____

- 1 Read this sentence from the story.

He also told a few amusing stories that made people laugh.

What does the word *amusing* mean in the sentence?

- A. sports
- B. long
- C. funny
- D. true

- 2 This story takes place mainly at

- A. Tim's home.
- B. a recreation center.
- C. a theater.
- D. Tim's school.

- 3 The author probably wrote this story in order to

- A. tell about a boy's interest.
- B. talk about the history of acting.
- C. explain how to become an actor.
- D. make acting seem strange.

NAME _____

Date _____

4 Why did Tim's mother nudge him?

- A. She was ready for them to leave.
- B. She wanted to ask Mr. Suarez a question.
- C. She knew Tim wanted to ask some questions.
- D. She wanted Tim to listen to the speaker.

5 How did Mr. Suarez become interested in acting? Use information provided in the story to help you write your answer.

NAME _____

Date _____

6 What words in the story show that Tim is interested in going to listen to the speaker?

- A. Tim's eyes grew wide.
- B. Tim's mother nudged him.
- C. Tim nodded.
- D. Tim raised his hand.

7 Who was Mr. Suarez?

- A. a teacher
- B. an actor
- C. a writer
- D. a friend of the family

8 How did Tim learn that Mr. Suarez would be speaking?

- A. He saw it on television.
- B. He heard it on the radio.
- C. He read it in a magazine.
- D. His mother read it in the newspaper.

9 At the end of the story, Tim decides to

- A. consider becoming an actor when he grows up.
- B. go to acting camp.
- C. learn more about acting.
- D. work harder in school.

- Writing Tip:** Look in the story for examples of ALL the ways that Tim's mother helps him. Include these examples in your writing.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.