

About a Boy – Chap 3&4: Emergency/Cool Uncle Will Vocabulary

The following lines are from the script. Can you remember the scenes in which they were used? Try to remember without looking at the textbook.

- a) Oh, **what a shame**. (p.38)
- b) Come on, **slowcoach!** (p.38)
- c) Oh, every once in a while. His mum's **a little off colour** sometimes. (p.42)
- d) Suddenly, I realized: two people isn't enough. You need **a backup**. (p.54)
- e) Full hours can be a little **intimidating**, and most activities take about half an hour. (p.56)
- f) Suzie said we **hit it off**. (p.58)
- g) The thing is, mate, my life is kind of **hectic** just at the moment. (p.58)
- h) So, you know, just time-**wise**, it's not um . . . it's not brill . . . (p.58)
- i) I did have a strange feeling . . . like a presence **lurking** at the back of my mind. (p.66)
- j) I just didn't decide **on the spur of the moment** because we'd run out of sausages. (p.72)

Complete the following sentences with the underlined words or phrases from above. Change the form of the words, or replace portions of the phrases so that they are grammatically correct and make sense. (do → did, me → him, etc.)

- 1) Why do we always have to wait for you? You are such a _____.
- 2) I would love to meet you but, time-_____, I just can't do it.
- 3) James looks a little bit _____. When they first met him all of his students felt scared.
- 4) Lynn decided not to go to the party as she was feeling _____.
- 5) Merwyn first met Jim in a bar in Shinjuku but they didn't _____ immediately. Now, however, they are great friends.
- 6) I heard about your TOEIC score. _____. I'm sure you will do better next time.
- 7) The last week of term is always a bit _____. I have so many things to do but very little time to do them.
- 8) Moving to a new country is not something you do _____. Most people plan it carefully for a long time.
- 9) Do you have a _____ plan in case everything goes wrong?
- 10) Robert felt a bit nervous and started to walk faster when he saw two guys _____ around the park.

About a Boy – 3&4: Emergency/Cool Uncle Will
Comprehension & Discussion

- 1) Will went to a picnic. Who organized the picnic? Why? Who did Will go with?
Have you ever been on a school or club organized event? Where did you go?
What did you do? Did you enjoy it?
- 2) What is Will's job? Where does he get his money from? What would you do
everyday if you had so much money that you didn't have to work?
- 3) How did the duck die? When Will was asked how the duck died, what did he say?
What would you have said in a similar situation? Why?
- 4) What did they find when they got back to Marcus's house? What had happened?
On the way to hospital, what did Will enjoy? Why?
- 5) When Fiona came back from hospital, Marcus decides he needs a 'backup' plan.
What was the plan? What did Marcus do to try to achieve his plan?
 - 1 _____
 - 2 _____
 - 3 _____
- 6) In the restaurant, what did Marcus think about? What did Will think about?
Where did they go after the restaurant? What happened? Have you ever been in
a situation where you wanted to leave but couldn't? What happened?
- 7) What kind of volunteer work had Will tried? What happened? Have you ever
done any volunteer work? What? Why? How long for?
- 8) Why don't Marcus and Fiona go to McDonalds? Do you know anybody who is
vegetarian? Do you think it is easy to be a vegetarian in Japan? Are there any
types of food that you can't eat? Why?
- 9) Marcus found out that Will did not have a child. What did he do? Was he right
or wrong to do that? Can you think of a situation where you would use
information you have to get what you want from someone?
- 10) Will tried to talk to Marcus about his mother to help him. Did it help? Why?
Who do you talk to when you have personal problems?

Vocabulary (Answers)

- 1) Why do we always have to wait for you? You are such a **slowcoach**.
- 2) I would love to meet you but, time-**wise**, I just can't do it.
- 3) James looks a little bit **intimidating**. When they first met him all of his students felt scared.
- 4) Lynn decided not to go to the party as she was feeling **a little off colour**.
- 5) Merwyn first met Jim in a bar in Shinjuku but they didn't **hit it off** immediately.
Now, however, they are great friends.
- 6) I heard about your TOEIC score. **What a shame**. I'm sure you will do better next time.
- 7) The last week of term is always a bit **hectic**. I have so many things to do but very little time to do them.
- 8) Moving to a new country is not something you do **on the spur of the moment**.
Most people plan it carefully for a long time.
- 9) Do you have a **backup** plan in case everything goes wrong?
- 10) Robert felt a bit nervous and started to walk faster when he saw two guys **lurking** around the park.