Name: _____ Date: _____

The Talent Show Hiccups

Circle group

Eli was going to tell jokes at the school talent show. He had practiced for two weeks. He knew every joke by heart. But when he stepped behind the curtain, his stomach fluttered, and a loud hiccup popped out of his mouth.

Hic! Then another. Hic! Eli's face turned red. He could not tell jokes with the hiccups. His friend Mina gave him a cup of water. "Take small sips," she whispered. Eli sipped and held his breath. The hiccups kept coming.

Then the curtain opened, and the audience clapped. Eli walked to the microphone. "Hic! Hello, everyone," he said. A few kids giggled. Eli had an idea. "Why did the chicken, hic, cross the road?" he asked. The audience leaned in. "To get to the other, hic, side!" Everybody laughed.

By the end of the show, the hiccups were gone, and the room cheered. "That was my best act," Eli told Mina, "and it was an accident."

Questions

1. What was Eli going to do at the talent show?

_____

_____

2. What went wrong when Eli stepped behind the curtain?

_____

_____

3. How did Mina try to help?

_____

_____

4. Why do you think Eli's stomach fluttered?

_____

_____

5. How did Eli use the hiccups in his act?

_____

_____

6. What does Eli mean when he says it was his best act, and an accident?

_____

_____

Words to know

talent show: an event where people show their special skills
fluttered: made quick, light movements, like wings
audience: the people who watch a show
microphone: a tool that makes a voice louder

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Talent Show Hiccups

Triangle group

Eli was going to tell jokes at the school talent show. He had practiced for two weeks, and he knew every single joke by heart. But when he stepped behind the curtain, his stomach fluttered nervously, and a loud hiccup suddenly popped out of his mouth.

Hic! Then another. Hic! Eli's face turned bright red, because he could not possibly tell jokes with the hiccups. His friend Mina handed him a cup of water. "Take small sips," she whispered. Eli sipped and held his breath, but the hiccups kept coming.

Then the curtain opened, and the audience clapped. Eli walked to the microphone. "Hic! Hello, everyone," he said. A few kids giggled. Eli had an idea. "Why did the chicken, hic, cross the road?" he asked. The audience leaned in. "To get to the other, hic, side!" Everybody burst out laughing.

By the end of the show, the hiccups had faded away, and the whole room cheered. "That was my best act," Eli told Mina afterward, "and it was an accident."

Questions

1. What was Eli going to do at the talent show?

_____

_____

2. What went wrong when Eli stepped behind the curtain?

_____

_____

3. How did Mina try to help?

_____

_____

4. Why do you think Eli's stomach fluttered?

_____

_____

5. How did Eli turn his problem into part of the act?

_____

_____

6. What does Eli mean when he says it was his best act, and an accident?

_____

_____

Words to know

talent show: an event where people show their special skills
fluttered: made quick, light movements, like wings
audience: the people who watch a show
microphone: a tool that makes a voice louder

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Talent Show Hiccups

Square group

Eli was scheduled to tell jokes at the school talent show. He had rehearsed for two entire weeks, and he knew every single joke by heart. But when he stepped behind the curtain, his stomach fluttered nervously, and a loud hiccup suddenly popped out of his mouth.

Hic! Then another. Hic! Eli's face turned bright red. He could not possibly tell jokes with the hiccups. His friend Mina handed him a cup of water. "Take small sips," she whispered. Eli sipped and held his breath, but the hiccups kept coming.

Then the curtain opened, and the audience applauded. Eli walked to the microphone. "Hic! Hello, everyone," he said. A few kids giggled. Eli had a sudden idea. "Why did the chicken, hic, cross the road?" he asked. The audience leaned forward. "To get to the other, hic, side!" Everybody burst out laughing.

By the end of the show, the hiccups had faded away, and the whole room cheered. "That was my best act," Eli told Mina afterward, "and it was completely an accident."

Questions

1. What was Eli scheduled to do at the talent show?

_____

_____

2. What went wrong when Eli stepped behind the curtain?

_____

_____

3. How did Mina try to help?

_____

_____

4. Why do you think Eli's stomach fluttered nervously?

_____

_____

5. How did Eli turn his problem into part of the act?

_____

_____

6. What does Eli mean when he says it was his best act, and an accident?

_____

_____

Words to know

talent show: an event where people show their special skills
fluttered: made quick, light movements, like wings
audience: the people who watch a show
microphone: a tool that makes a voice louder

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: The Talent Show Hiccups

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: The Talent Show Hiccups

Easier · 158 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.5

1. Tell jokes.
2. His stomach fluttered and he got the hiccups.
3. She gave him water and told him to take small sips.
4. He was nervous about being on stage.
5. He put them into his jokes, and the audience found it funny.
6. He did not plan the hiccups, but they made the act funnier.

Triangle: The Talent Show Hiccups

This passage · 171 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.9

1. Tell jokes.
2. His stomach fluttered and he got the hiccups.
3. She gave him a cup of water and told him to take small sips.
4. He was nervous about performing in front of people.
5. He kept the hiccups in his jokes, and the audience found it funny.
6. He did not plan the hiccups, but they made the act funnier than his practiced version.

Square: The Talent Show Hiccups

Harder · 173 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.3

1. Tell jokes.
2. His stomach fluttered nervously and he got the hiccups.
3. She handed him a cup of water and told him to take small sips.
4. He was anxious about performing in front of an audience.
5. He kept the hiccups in his jokes, and the audience found it hilarious.
6. He did not plan the hiccups, but they made the act funnier than his rehearsed version.