

The Cyan Scooter



Robbie gulped as he peered over the edge of the ramp. Had it always been this high up? His hand trembled as he wiped a bead of sweat from his forehead.

“Go on, Rob!” called his brother, Fred, from the safety of the ground. He looked like an ant to Robbie. “You’re not too scared are you?”

Robbie took a deep breath and gritted his teeth. “You can do this,” he told himself. After all, he was the best scooter rider in his school. He was the only scooter rider that could do a tailwhip! Even Cady in year 6 couldn’t do that and she could do amazing tricks like grinds. Joey in Robbie’s class could do a handlebar spin, but that was about it. No, Robbie was definitely the best scooter rider in school. And he’d zoomed down ramps before, plenty of times. So why was this one scaring him so much?

His new scooter was an eye-catching shade of cyan – it looked like a mix of the colour of the shallows where the sea meets the sand and the colour of Robbie’s favourite blueberry-flavoured sweets. It even had glitter in the paint which shimmered like fairy dust in the sunlight. He had loved having everybody look at his new scooter when he first got it, but now suddenly he felt as if he were standing on stage under a blinding spotlight. Every face in the skatepark was turned towards him, including Dad’s.

Dad had spent a lot of money on the scooter, but he’d spent something even more valuable on Robbie: time. He had spent hours in the back yard with Robbie, teaching him how to do all kinds of tricks and stunts. He had never seen Robbie in the skatepark though because he worked a lot. There was a first time for everything.

“Get on with it!” someone shouted from the growing crowd.

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Robbie swallowed again and caught his dad's eye. His heart was beating as fast as a drum. Dad gave a small nod and an encouraging smile, too small for anyone else to see but Robbie. Pride swelling in his chest, Robbie gripped the handlebars tightly and leaned forward. It didn't matter if he fell; Dad was watching. Dad would be proud of him no matter what.

With one strong push of his foot, Robbie leapt off the top of the ramp and plunged into the air with all the bravery of a soldier leaping from a warplane.

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Questions

Robbie gulped as he peered over the edge of the ramp. Had it always been this high up? His hand trembled as he wiped a bead of sweat from his forehead.

1

a) Which word best describes how Robbie is feeling?

- ☐ determined
- ☐ nervous
- ☐ brave

b) How do you know?

2

Draw lines to match the character to their description.

Robbie

This character is Robbie's brother.

Cady

This character can do a handlebar spin.

Joey

This character is the best scooter rider in the school.

Dad

This character taught Robbie how to do tricks.

Fred

This character can do amazing tricks like grinds.

He looked like an ant to Robbie.

3

Why does Fred look like an ant?

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4

What colour is cyan? Circle the correct answer.

green

red

yellow

blue

5

Find and copy one simile from the text.

6

What valuable thing had Dad spent on Robbie?

He had loved having everybody look at his new scooter when he first got it, but now suddenly he felt as if he were standing on stage under a blinding spotlight.

7

Why does Robbie feel as if he is on stage?

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8

Tick the following statements to show if they are true or false.

	true	false
Robbie's new scooter is sparkly.		
Fred paid for Robbie's new scooter.		
Dad had never seen Robbie at the skatepark before.		

9

Summarise the story in less than 20 words.

With one strong push of his foot, Robbie leapt off the top of the ramp and plunged into the air with all the bravery of a soldier leaping from a warplane.

10

What do you think happened next?

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Answers

Robbie gulped as he peered over the edge of the ramp. Had it always been this high up? His hand trembled as he wiped a bead of sweat from his forehead.

1

a) Which word best describes how Robbie is feeling?

- ☐ determined
- ☒ nervous
- ☐ brave

b) How do you know?

He is showing his nerves by gulping, his hands are shaking and he is sweating. He is also questioning whether the ramp has always been so high.

2

Draw lines to match the character to their description.

- | | | |
|--------|------------------|---|
| Robbie | _____ | This character is Robbie's brother. |
| Cady | _____ | This character can do a handlebar spin. |
| Joey | _____ | This character is the best scooter rider in the school. |
| Dad | _____ | This character taught Robbie how to do tricks. |
| Fred | _____ | This character can do amazing tricks like grinds. |

He looked like an ant to Robbie.

3

Why does Fred look like an ant?

Robbie feels like the ramp is very high up and Fred is far away on the ground, so he looks small like an ant.

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4

What colour is cyan? Circle the correct answer.

green

red

yellow

blue

5

Find and copy one simile from the text.

Any of the following:

- **he looked like an ant to Robbie**
- **shimmered like fairy dust in the sunlight**
- **he felt as if he was standing on stage under a blinding spotlight**
- **his heart was beating as fast as a drum**

6

What valuable thing had Dad spent on Robbie?

Dad had spent money on Robbie but he had also spent time on him, teaching him how to do tricks in the back yard.

He had loved having everybody look at his new scooter when he first got it, but now suddenly he felt as if he were standing on stage under a blinding spotlight.

7

Why does Robbie feel as if he is on stage?

Robbie feels as if he is on stage because everybody is watching him, like an audience would do.

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8

Tick the following statements to show if they are true or false.

	true	false
Robbie's new scooter is sparkly.	✓	
Fred paid for Robbie's new scooter.		✓
Dad had never seen Robbie at the skatepark before.	✓	

9

Summarise the story in less than 20 words.

Various answers, such as:

A scooter rider called Robbie is getting ready to jump off a ramp.

With one strong push of his foot, Robbie leapt off the top of the ramp and plunged into the air with all the bravery of a soldier leaping from a warplane.

10

What do you think happened next?

Child's own answer, for example:

- I think that Robbie will fall off but he won't be upset because his dad is there to watch him.
- I think that Robbie will land the trick and his dad will be proud of him.

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. As far as possible, the contents of this resource are reflective of current professional research. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. The information given here is intended for general guidance purposes only and may not apply to your specific situation.



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