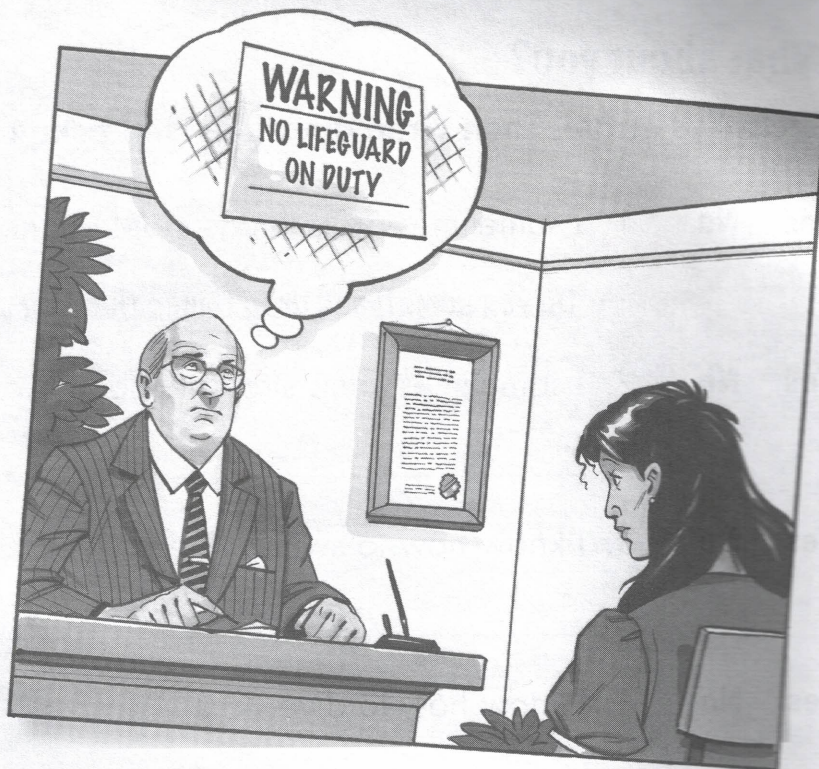


Chapter 12

The Lifeguard



Brandon didn't need to go to the hospital. He was resting in his hotel room, although he probably didn't have the energy to jump on the beds that night. Amelia went to the employees' locker room and put on a dry housekeeper's uniform. Then Dolores entered the room and gave Amelia a big hug. "You were a housekeeper, a nanny, and a waitress today. Then you had to be a lifeguard!" she said with a laugh. "Maybe a red bathing suit and a whistle should be part of your uniform."

Later, Amelia went to Mr. Medina's office and helped him fill out an accident report. The hotel wasn't responsible for what happened to Brandon. There were many signs posted around the pool: *WARNING: NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY*. It was Mrs. Howard's fault that Brandon almost drowned—and no one else's. "But thank goodness you saw him," said Mr. Medina. "That was almost a terrible tragedy."

Mr. Medina spent a few more minutes talking to Amelia, in English, about other things. He asked about her education and work experience in Mexico. He asked about her career ambitions.



"Don't lose hope, Amelia," said Mr. Medina. "I started in the hotel business as a bellhop, just like your brother. Work hard and you will have many opportunities."

"Thank you," said Amelia. "I will. But I have to catch my bus now."

"You aren't catching any bus today," said Mr. Medina. "The hotel limousine is taking you home."

Answer the questions.

1. Where didn't Brandon need to go? Where was he resting?
2. Where did Amelia go? What did she put on?
3. What did Dolores give Amelia?
4. What occupations did Dolores say that Amelia had today?
5. What things did she say should be part of her uniform?
6. Where did Amelia go later? What did she help him fill out?
7. Why wasn't the hotel responsible for what happened to Brandon?
8. Whose fault was it that Brandon almost drowned?
9. What did Mr. Medina spend a few more minutes doing?
10. What did Mr. Medina ask Amelia about?
11. Where did he start in the hotel business?
12. How was Amelia getting home today?

Complete the story.

lifeguard
fault
bathing suit

tragedy
locker room
signs

whistle
uniform
hug

goodness
accident report
waitress

Amelia went to the employees' _____¹ and put on a dry housekeeper's uniform. Then Dolores entered the room and gave Amelia a big _____². "You were a housekeeper, a nanny, and a _____³ today. Then you had to be a _____⁴!" she said with a laugh. "Maybe a red _____⁵ and a _____⁶ should be part of your _____⁷."

Later, Amelia went to Mr. Medina's office and helped him fill out an _____⁸. The hotel wasn't responsible for what happened to Brandon. There were many _____⁹ posted around the pool. It was Mrs. Howard's _____¹⁰ that Brandon almost drowned—and no one else's. "But thank _____¹¹ you saw him," said Mr. Medina. "That was almost a terrible _____¹²."

Matching: Definitions

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ____ 1. waitress | a. a supervisor in charge of operations at a business |
| ____ 2. bellhop | b. a person who cleans rooms in a hotel or in a home |
| ____ 3. general manager | c. a person who saves swimmers from drowning |
| ____ 4. nanny | d. a person who carries luggage for hotel guests |
| ____ 5. housekeeper | e. a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant |
| ____ 6. lifeguard | f. a person who is hired to take care of children |

A Conversation in Mr. Medina's Office

Practice the dialog with a partner.



A: Tell me about your education and work experience in Mexico.

B: Well, I attended university. And I worked as a teacher in an elementary school for two years.

A: Do you have any career ambitions?

B: Of course. There are many other jobs I would like to do.

A: Don't lose hope, Amelia. I started in the hotel business as a bellhop. Work hard and you will have many opportunities.

B: Thank you. I will. But I have to catch my bus now.

A: You aren't catching any bus today. The hotel limousine is taking you home.

Past-Tense Verbs

A. Write the present tense of the irregular past-tense verbs below.

1. _____ caught

5. _____ lost

2. _____ were

6. _____ gave

3. _____ spent

7. _____ saw

4. _____ put on

8. _____ went

B. Write negative past-tense sentences.

1. You gave her a big hug.

You didn't give her a big hug.

2. I went to the employees' locker room.

3. We caught the bus at 5:00.

4. She put on a dry housekeeper's uniform.

Listening

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. Later, Amelia _____ to Mr. Medina's _____.
2. She helped him fill out an _____.
3. The hotel wasn't _____ for what happened to Brandon.
4. There were many _____ posted around the _____.
5. It was Mrs. Howard's _____ that Brandon almost _____.
6. "But _____ goodness you _____ him," said Mr. Medina.
7. "That was _____ a terrible _____."
8. Mr. Medina spent a few more minutes talking to Amelia in _____.
9. He asked about her _____ and work _____ in Mexico.
10. He asked her about her _____.

Pronunciation

Check (✓) *s*, *z*, or *iz* to show the pronunciation of the final sound in the plural nouns below.

- | | s | z | iz | | s | z | iz |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. buses | _____ | _____ | _____ | 6. ambitions | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. reports | _____ | _____ | _____ | 7. nannies | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. tragedies | _____ | _____ | _____ | 8. bathing suits | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. waitresses | _____ | _____ | _____ | 9. lifeguards | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. bellhops | _____ | _____ | _____ | 10. experiences | _____ | _____ | _____ |

What about you?

Circle **Yes** or **No**. Then write questions and ask your partner.

Yes **No** 1. I sometimes go to the employees' locker room.

Do you sometimes go to the employees' locker room? _____

Yes **No** 2. I sometimes help fill out an accident report.

Yes **No** 3. I sometimes talk to the general manager at my work.

Yes **No** 4. I sometimes see signs posted around a pool.

Yes **No** 5. I sometimes talk about my education.

Yes **No** 6. I sometimes talk about my work experience.

Yes **No** 7. I believe that I will have many opportunities if I work hard.

Topics for Discussion or Writing

1. What signs are sometimes posted around a pool? What other things can help people be safe in the water?
2. What things do you think Amelia should talk to Mr. Medina about?
3. What career ambitions do you have?