

Chapter 13 A Special Meeting



During the next three weeks, many hotel employees came looking for Amelia on the third floor. She received dozens of handshakes and pats on the back from her co-workers: housekeepers, managers, front desk clerks, bellhops, valets, laundry workers, concierges, and maintenance people. They all congratulated her for her heroism. "Thank you," said Amelia. "But I just did what I had to do."

It came as no surprise that Amelia was chosen as Employee of the Month at the next staff meeting. She received a plaque and some flowers. Her picture was taken to display in the hotel lobby. There was even a representative from the fire department who presented her with a special award. "Your response to an emergency saved a child from drowning," the representative said. "This community thanks you."

Then Mr. Medina led two very special guests into the room: Mrs. Howard and Brandon. They had returned to the hotel to thank Amelia in person. Brandon gave Amelia a picture he had drawn by himself. It showed Amelia and Brandon swimming happily together in the hotel pool.



"How beautiful!" said Amelia. "And I'm still wearing my housekeeper's uniform!"

Finally, Mrs. Howard spoke directly to Amelia: "I will feel forever grateful to you," she said with tears in her eyes. "You saved my son's life, and I thank you with all of my heart. But . . ." And then Mrs. Howard smiled broadly and winked. "I'm still waiting for my diet soda."

Answer the questions.

1. What happened during the next three weeks?
2. What did she receive from her co-workers?
3. What did they congratulate her for?
4. What was Amelia chosen as?
5. What did she receive?
6. What was taken to display in the hotel lobby?
7. Who presented her with a special award?
8. What did the representative say?
9. Who did Mr. Medina lead into the room?
10. Why had they returned to the hotel?
11. What did Brandon give Amelia? What did it show?
12. What did Mrs. Howard say she is still waiting for?

Complete the story.

surprise
award
community

employees
plaque
emergency

heroism
lobby
valets

staff meeting
handshakes
representative

During the next three weeks, many hotel _____¹ came looking for Amelia on the third floor. She received dozens of _____² and pats on the back from her co-workers: housekeepers, managers, front desk clerks, bellhops, _____³, laundry workers, concierges, and maintenance people. They all congratulated her for her _____⁴. "Thank you," said Amelia. "But I just did what I had to do."

It came as no _____⁵ that Amelia was chosen as Employee of the Month at the next _____⁶. She received a _____⁷ and some flowers. Her picture was taken to display in the hotel _____⁸. There was even a _____⁹ from the fire department who presented her with a special _____¹⁰. "Your response to an _____¹¹ saved a child from drowning," the representative said. "This _____¹² thanks you."

Meanings

Read the sentences. Look at the underlined word. Circle *a* or *b*.

1. They all congratulated her for her heroism.
a. plaque
b. bravery
2. "Your response to an emergency saved a child from drowning."
a. dying
b. swimming
3. "I will feel forever grateful to you," she said with tears in her eyes.
a. hysterical
b. thankful

A Conversation with a Front Desk Clerk

Practice the dialog with a partner.



A: Congratulations, Amelia! I heard what you did.

B: Oh? Thanks.

A: That's pretty amazing. Good for you!

B: Well, I'm very glad the little boy is okay.

A: Did you really jump in and save him?

B: Of course. You would have, too, in that situation.

A: Well, you really are a hero around here.

B: Thank you. But I just did what I had to do.

Past-Tense Verbs

A. Write the negative form of each past-tense verb.

1. showed _____

5. thanked _____

2. spoke _____

6. did _____

3. gave _____

7. received _____

4. led _____

8. came _____

B. Write affirmative past-tense sentences.

1. She didn't speak directly to Amelia.

She spoke directly to Amelia.

2. You didn't receive a plaque.

3. We didn't thank her.

4. They didn't come looking for her.

5. He didn't give her a picture.

6. I didn't lead them into the room.

Listening

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

1. Amelia was chosen as Employee of the Month at the next _____ meeting.
2. She _____ a plaque and some _____.
3. Her _____ was taken to display in the hotel _____.
4. A representative from the fire department presented her with a special _____.
5. "Your response to an _____ saved a child from drowning."
6. "This _____ thanks you."
7. Mr. Medina _____ two very special _____ into the room.
8. They had returned to the hotel to _____ Amelia in _____.
9. Brandon _____ Amelia a picture he had drawn by _____.
10. It showed Amelia and Brandon _____ happily together in the hotel pool.

Pronunciation

Check (✓) *d*, *t*, or *id* to show the pronunciation of the final sound in the past-tense verbs below.

	d	t	id		d	t	id
1. winked	_____	_____	_____	6. presented	_____	_____	_____
2. returned	_____	_____	_____	7. smiled	_____	_____	_____
3. thanked	_____	_____	_____	8. congratulated	_____	_____	_____
4. saved	_____	_____	_____	9. displayed	_____	_____	_____
5. showed	_____	_____	_____	10. received	_____	_____	_____

What about you?

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

Yes **No** 1. I sometimes receive handshakes.

Do you sometimes receive handshakes?

Yes **No** 2. I sometimes receive pats on the back.

Yes **No** 3. I sometimes receive flowers.

Yes **No** 4. I sometimes receive special awards.

Yes **No** 5. I sometimes congratulate people.

Yes **No** 6. I sometimes thank people.

Yes **No** 7. I feel very grateful to someone.

Topics for Discussion or Writing

1. Do people have different jobs where you work? If so, what are their jobs?
2. Why do people sometimes congratulate each other?
3. For what reasons does the fire department sometimes give special awards?