



Chapter 9 Brandon's Nanny

After Amelia dutifully made both beds—again—Brandon promptly jumped back onto the bed on the left. Mrs. Howard put down the phone and sighed. “Would you be a dear,” she said to Amelia, “and take him out into the hallway for a few minutes?”

“Well,” said Amelia, “I . . . uh . . .”

“Great,” said Mrs. Howard. “This call is very important.” So Amelia and Brandon walked out the door. Brandon looked at Amelia curiously.

“Are you my new nanny?” asked Brandon.

“I guess so,” said Amelia, smiling. “At least for a few minutes.”

“What’s all of this stuff?” Brandon asked, pointing to the things on her cart.

“Those are things I need for the rooms,” said Amelia, looking seriously at her watch. She was already behind schedule.

Fifteen minutes later, and after Brandon had picked up and opened many bottles of shampoo, Mrs. Howard nonchalantly came out of her room wearing her sunglasses and a large hat.



"We're going out to the pool now, Brandon," she said. "Would you be a dear," she said to Amelia, "and bring me a diet soda? I'll be on a lounge chair." Then Mrs. Howard and Brandon disappeared down the hallway.

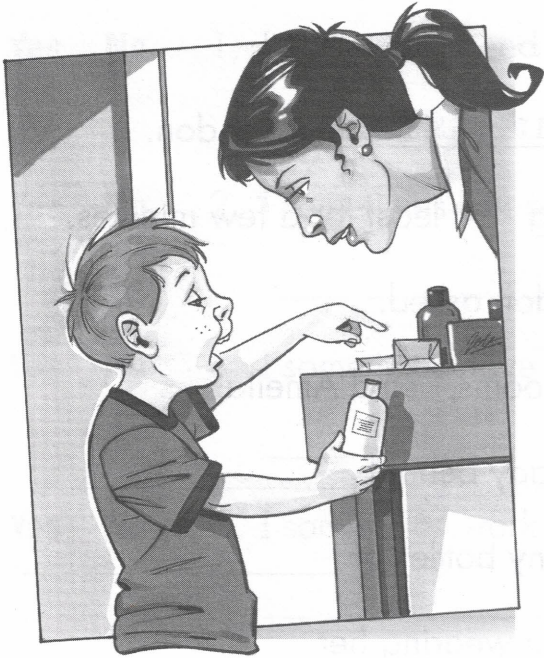
Amelia stood next to her cart in disbelief. "Okay," said Amelia quietly. "First, I'm her housekeeper. Then I'm her nanny. And now, I'm her waitress. And not a word of thanks." Amelia rolled her eyes. "But at least it's a career change."

Answer the questions.

1. What did Amelia dutifully make again?
2. What did Brandon promptly do?
3. What did Mrs. Howard do?
4. What did Mrs. Howard say to Amelia about Brandon?
5. Where did Amelia and Brandon go? How did Brandon look at Amelia?
6. What did Amelia look seriously at? What was her problem?
7. How did Mrs. Howard come out of her room? What was she wearing?
8. Where did she say they were going now?
9. What did she ask Amelia to bring her?
10. Where did Mrs. Howard and Brandon disappear?
11. How did Amelia stand next to her cart?
12. What did Amelia say quietly? What did she roll?

A Conversation with Brandon

Practice the dialog with a partner.



A: Are you my new nanny?

B: I guess so. At least for a few minutes.

A: What's all of this stuff?

B: Those are things I need for the rooms.

A: What's inside this little bottle?

B: That's shampoo.

A: What's in this little package?

B: That's soap. But please don't open it. It's for a guest.

Past-Tense Verbs

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

1. jumped _____

5. made _____

2. put down _____

6. rolled _____

3. was _____

7. came out _____

4. stood _____

8. disappeared _____

B. Write negative past-tense sentences.

1. She made both beds again.

She didn't make both beds again.

2. I came out of my room.

3. He put down the phone.

4. We stood next to our cart.

5. She was behind schedule.

6. The boy jumped back onto the bed.

Listening

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

1. Brandon looked at Amelia _____.
2. "Are you my new _____?" _____ Brandon.
3. "I _____ so," said Amelia, smiling. "At least for a few minutes."
4. "What's all of this _____?" Brandon asked.
5. "Those are _____ I need for the rooms," said Amelia.
6. She looked seriously at her watch. She was already behind _____.
7. Brandon picked up and _____ many bottles of _____.
8. Mrs. Howard nonchalantly came out of her room wearing her _____ and a _____ hat.
9. "We're _____ out to the _____ now, Brandon," she said.
10. "Would you be a dear," she said to Amelia, "and bring me a _____?"

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. disappeared	_____	_____	_____	6. walked	_____	_____	_____
2. rolled	_____	_____	_____	7. picked up	_____	_____	_____
3. pointed	_____	_____	_____	8. smiled	_____	_____	_____
4. jumped	_____	_____	_____	9. opened	_____	_____	_____
5. sighed	_____	_____	_____	10. looked at	_____	_____	_____

What about you?

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

Yes No 1. I sometimes need to make my bed again.

Do you sometimes need to make your bed again?

Yes No 2. I sometimes ask someone to help me with my child.

Yes No 3. I sometimes have a call that is very important.

Yes No 4. I sometimes work as a nanny.

Yes No 5. I sometimes wear sunglasses and a large hat.

Yes No 6. I sometimes go to a pool.

Yes No 7. I sometimes bring someone a diet soda.

Topics for Discussion or Writing

1. What are some responsibilities that a nanny has?
2. For what reasons are people sometimes behind schedule?
3. How do you think Mrs. Howard treats Amelia? Do you think that Amelia does the right thing in helping her?