Chris hauled the last folding chair up from the basement. He set it out on the deck and poured himself a glass of lemonade from the pitcher on the card table.

“Christopher, that’s for the party,” his mother said.
“But I’m thirsty.”
“Then get yourself a drink from the refrigerator. And when you’re done, your father needs help setting up the volleyball net.”

“Why isn’t Kurt helping?” Chris asked. “It’s his party. Why am I stuck doing all the work while he’s out with his friends.”

The phone rang and Mom ran inside muttering, “That better not be the caterers with another problem. That food was supposed to be delivered an hour ago.”

Chris poured himself another glass of lemonade, figuring his mom was too preoccupied to notice.

Chris helped his father with the volleyball net and then searched the basement for another table. He spotted one behind some boxes in the space under the stairs. He tried to

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push them aside but they were too heavy.

“I’ll get it,” Kurt said, coming up behind him.

“It’s about time you did something.”

“What’s that about?” Kurt asked, looking hurt.

“This is your party. But I’ve been doing everything. And people are going to give you presents and money. What do I get?

“Oh,” Chris said. Suddenly carrying a few tables and chairs didn’t seem so bad. “There’s still an hour until the party starts. You should relax. Take a nap or something.”

“You don’t mind helping with the set up while I nap?” Kurt asked.

“No.” Chris smiled. “Happy graduation.”
Graduation Party
by Kelly Hashway

1. When does this story mostly take place?
   a. at Chris and Kurt's house
   b. at a park near Chris and Kurt's house
   c. shortly before Chris' graduation party
   d. shortly before Kurt's graduation party

2. Why was Chris upset with Kurt?

3. Where was Chris' brother Kurt during the day, and what was he doing?

4. Which job didn't Chris' family have to do to prepare for the party?
   a. cook food for the party
   b. bring tables and chairs from the basement
   c. put up a volleyball net
   d. make lemonade for the party

5. If Kurt left the supermarket at 1:00 pm, how many hours was he working? ____________________

6. Place the events in order. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

   ____ The phone rang and Mom answered it.
   ____ Chris brought up the folding chairs from the basement.
   ____ Kurt left home to go to the supermarket.
   ____ Kurt takes a nap.
Graduation Party
Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. ___ a ___ e ___ e n ___
   hint: synonym for cellar

2. ___ u ___ t ___ i n ___
   hint: speaking in a low voice that is difficult to hear

3. ___ r e ___ ___ c ___ ___ d

4. ___ u s ___ n ___

5. ___ a t ___ e ___ s
   hint: people who are hired to prepare food

6. ___ u ___ ___ a r ___ e t
   hint: large grocery store

7. ___ ___ d u ___ ___ n
   hint: celebration to honor a student who has finished high school or college

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In the article, “Graduation Party”, Kurt got a job at a supermarket to earn money to pay for college.

Write a paragraph in which you describe four different jobs at a supermarket. Give the name of each job and tell what a person holding the job does.
1. When does this story mostly take place?  d
   a. at Chris and Kurt's house  b. at a park near Chris and Kurt's house

2. Why was Chris upset with Kurt?
   Chris has been working hard to help prepare for Kurt's graduation party and he thought Kurt was hanging out with his friends all day.

3. Where was Chris' brother Kurt during the day, and what was he doing?
   Kurt got a job at the supermarket and he was mopping floors.

4. Which job didn't Chris' family have to do to prepare for the party?
   a. cook food for the party  b. bring tables and chairs from the basement  c. put up a volleyball net  d. make lemonade for the party

5. If Kurt left the supermarket at 1:00 pm, how many hours was he working?
   8 hours

6. Place the events in order. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.
   1st Kurt left home to go to the supermarket.
   2nd Chris brought up the folding chairs from the basement.
   3rd The phone rang and Mom answered it.
   4th Kurt takes a nap.

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ANSWER KEY

Graduation Party
Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. b a s e m e n t  
   basement

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

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