

Beginning Short Stories – “A Call to the Pool”

Directions: First read the basic version of the story below. Next, read the advanced version of the same story. Then, try to answer the questions about the story.

Basic Version

Today it is very hot outside. How can I cool down? Maybe I can go swimming at the pool. I need to find out what time it opens. I will make a call.

I pressed the numbers on the phone and waited.

“Ring. Ring.”

“Hello, this is Andrea at the pool. How can I help you?”

“Hi, I want to know what time the pool opens.”

“Oh okay. The pool opens at 10:30 in the morning.”

“Okay, thank you!”

“You are welcome. Bye.”

“Good bye.”

Great! It is 10:00 in the morning now. That means the pool will open in thirty minutes!”



Advanced Version

Today it is very hot outside. How can I cool down? Maybe I can go swimming at the pool. I need to find out what time it opens. I will make a call.

I *dialed* the phone and waited.

“Ring. Ring.”

“Hello, this is Andrea at the pool. How can I help you?”

“Hi, I want to know what time the pool opens.”

“Oh okay. The pool opens at 10:30 *am*.”

“Okay, thank you!”

“You are welcome. Bye.”

“Good bye.”

Great! It is 10:00 *am*. That means the pool will open in *half and hour!*”

Questions:

1. Who answered the phone?
2. What time is the pool open?
3. What time is it now?

Vocabulary:

To find word definitions: First, find the word in the advanced version of the story. Then, compare this part of the advanced version of the story to the same part of the basic version of the story. This will give you a general definition of the word.

1. What does “*dialed*” mean? (*paragraph 2, sentence 1*)
2. What does “*am*” mean? (*paragraph 6, sentence 1*)
3. What does “*half an hour*” mean? (*the last line of the story*)