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# Intermediate Short Stories – "A Paper for School"

**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

David came back from school one day with a lot of homework to do. He walked angrily into the kitchen and put his books down on the table. His older sister Sarah was listening to music and doing her homework.

"My teacher wants us to write a paper," he said to Sarah. "I don't know what to write."

"Well, why don't we go to the library?" Sarah said. She was trying to give him some helpful ideas. "We can find lots of books there."

They went to the library and David did a lot of reading about subjects that he was interested in. He finally found something to write about. Then he sat down and carefully wrote his paper. Sarah looked over his paper for errors.

"This looks like a good paper!" she said. "I bet you'll get an A."

#### Advanced Version

David came back from school one day with a lot of homework to do. He *stomped* into the kitchen and put his books down on the table. His older sister Sarah was listening to music and doing her homework.

"My teacher wants us to write a paper," he said to Sarah. "I don't know what to write."

"Well, why don't we go to the library?" Sarah *suggested*. "We can find lots of books there."

They went to the library and David did a lot of *research* until he finally found something to write about. Then he sat down and carefully wrote his paper. Sarah *proofread* his paper.

"This looks like a good paper!" she said. "I bet you'll get an A."

## **Questions:**

- 1. What does David have to do?
- 2. What does David do at the library to get ideas for his paper?
- 3. How does Sarah help David with his paper?

## 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 "stomped" mean? (paragraph 1, sentence 2)
- 2. What does "suggested" mean? (paragraph 3, sentence 1)
- 3. What does "research" mean? (paragraph 4, sentence 1)
- 4. What does "proofread" mean? (paragraph 5, sentence 3)