

READ THE PASSAGE Think about what is happening in this scene.**The Big Interview**

Charles sat in the cafeteria with five other students, waiting for Ms. Swanson to interview all of them. Ms. Swanson, the seventh-grade science teacher, was looking for a lab helper. Charles's palms were sweaty and his face felt hot. He wondered if his face was red—and if anyone would notice.

As he prepared for his interview, Charles reviewed a set of index cards with notes that he had made earlier. On each card, he had written an answer to a question that Ms. Swanson might ask. "The emergency eyewash station is not a place to get a drink of water," he quietly read aloud from one card.

Charles decided to check out the other candidates. Nearby, a girl with dark red hair was shuffling her own set of index cards. He watched as she tore a card into tiny pieces and stuffed the pieces into a pocket. Suddenly she looked up at Charles. "Are you nervous?" she asked.

"No, I'm not nervous—not at all," Charles stammered. "What about you?"

"Uh, no, me neither," the girl responded.

At that moment, Ms. Swanson appeared. "Charles Locke?" she called out.

STRATEGY PRACTICE Look back at the passage. Underline the sentences and phrases that tell you Charles is nervous.**SKILL PRACTICE** Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

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| 1. What is the passage mostly about? | 3. You can tell that the girl is nervous because _____ |
| Ⓐ waiting to be interviewed | Ⓐ her face turns red |
| Ⓑ working as a science teacher | Ⓑ she tears up one of her index cards |
| Ⓒ making notes on index cards | Ⓒ her palms are sweaty |
| Ⓓ a demanding science teacher | Ⓓ she reads her index cards |
| 2. What is most likely to happen next in the story? | 4. The student who gets the job will be working _____ |
| Ⓐ Charles will talk to Ms. Swanson. | Ⓐ in the cafeteria |
| Ⓑ Charles will tear up his index cards. | Ⓑ in the science lab |
| Ⓒ Charles will help the girl prepare for her interview. | Ⓒ at the library |
| Ⓓ Charles will decide not to try for the job. | Ⓓ at the eyewash station |