

Name: _____

The Twister

by Kelly Hashway



Michelle slumped in her seat as the bus pulled into the amusement park. She'd spent the entire ride from school listening to her friends talk about the new roller coaster, the Twister. Michelle had been on roller coasters before, but she didn't like them. She was terrified of the slow climb to the top at the start of the ride. It gave her time to agonize over the big drops and loops. But her friends were

excited to ride The Twister, so she was going to have to find some way to get through it.

"Let's get in line for the Twister," Ashley said as soon as the bus stopped and the driver opened the door.

"Everyone stick with your group, and remember the first check-in will be in one hour," Mrs. Grayson said. She looked at Ashley and Michelle. "Are we heading to the Twister first?"

Ashley, Tina, Beth, and Shauna nodded excitedly. Michelle gulped.

The others stepped off the bus, and Mrs. Grayson whispered, "I'm nervous, too."

Michelle nodded. At least she wasn't the only one.

Ashley dropped back and grabbed Michelle's arm. "I'm so scared to ride the Twister. I heard the first drop is awful, and my sister's friend said she threw up after all the twists and loops."

"We could go on another ride," Michelle said, blurring the words out.

Ashley shook her head. "No way. I can't wait to ride the Twister!"

"But you just said you were scared."

"Being scared is what makes it fun. Would you want to go on a baby ride that goes really slow and just turns in a big circle?"

"No. That's boring."

"Exactly. It's boring because it's not scary."

Maybe Ashley was right. Michelle looked at the ride operator at the front of the line. He met her stare and smiled. "I can take a group up front," he said.

Ashley squeezed Michelle's arm. "Want to sit up front?"

"That's the scariest seat right?"

"Definitely!"

Michelle took a deep breath. "Let's go."

"Are you sure?" Mrs. Grayson asked.

"It'll be really scary, but if we're going to ride the Twister, we may as well get the best seats." Michelle led her group to the front of the line and sat down in the first seat. The lap bar clicked into place.

"Enjoy the ride," the operator said.

Michelle nodded. "We will."

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1. Put the events in order. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th.

_____ Ashley tells her friends she's scared of the Twister.

_____ Mrs. Grayson announced that the first check-in is in one hour.

_____ The bus pulls into the amusement park.

_____ Michelle suggests going on a different ride.

_____ Michelle and Ashley sit in front of the roller coaster.

2. Which statement about Michelle is true?

- a. She got sick last time she was on a roller coaster.
- b. She has never been on a roller coaster before.
- c. She dislikes the slow climb at the beginning of a roller coaster ride.
- d. She doesn't mind the slow climb to the top of a roller coaster, but she doesn't like when it speeds up.

3. At the end of the story, does Michelle really want to go on the roller coaster, or is she only going because Ashley is forcing her to? How do you know?

Now try this: Have you ever been on a roller coaster? On a separate sheet of paper, write a descriptive paragraph describing your roller coaster ride. If you have not been on a roller coaster, describe what you think it would be like.

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Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the story.
Then, write the full word on the line.

1. ___ g ___ _ _ e

clue: fret; become worried

1. _____

2. ___ e ___ _ _ _ _ r

clue: antonym for forget

2. _____

3. ___ e ___ _ _ _

clue: went towards

3. _____

4. ___ _ _ r ___ t ___ _

clue: person who controls a machine

4. _____

5. ___ _ r ___ n ___

clue: not fun or exciting

5. _____

6. ___ _ a ___ e

clue: to look at for a long time

6. _____

7. ___ _ p

clue: area from the waist to the knees of a seated person

7. _____

ANSWER KEY

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 - 3** Ashley tells her friends she's scared of the Twister.
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3. At the end of the story, does Michelle really want to go on the roller coaster, or is she only going because Ashley is forcing her to? How do you know?

Answers will vary. Possible answer: Michelle really does not want to go on the roller coaster. Mrs. Grayson asks her if she's sure she wants to sit in front and she says she wants the best seat.

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1. a g o n i z e

clue: fret; become worried

1. agonize

2. r e m e m b e r

clue: antonym for forget

2. remember

3. h e a d e d

clue: went towards

3. headed

4. o p e r a t o r

clue: person who controls a machine

4. operator

5. b o r i n g

clue: not fun or exciting

5. boring

6. s t a r e

clue: to look at for a long time

6. stare

7. l a p

clue: area from the waist to the knees of a seated person

7. lap