

SESSION 3

Directions

Read the story “Carmen.” Then do Numbers 36 through 44.

Carmen



“Can I feed the chickens?” Carmen asked her Uncle Tino.

“Sure thing. Here’s some feed. Just scatter it on the ground,” he said.

Carmen went to work mimicking the way her uncle called the chickens and then scattered the feed on the ground. She was *ecstatic*. It was only a few days since she arrived and she was already feeling at home. She was learning all about animals and how to feed them. It was wonderful being on a farm after spending the year in an apartment in the city.

Carmen had arrived earlier in the week with her mother. The two of them had taken the bus on the dusty road. It was a three-hour trip. Her mother had fixed them sandwiches and brought things to read and games to play. It was Carmen’s first long bus trip. Before she left, she had kissed her father and little sister good-bye.

When they arrived, Uncle Tino was at the bus stop waiting to take them to his farm, where Aunt Elena had prepared a big feast for dinner. The next day, Carmen’s mother boarded the bus back to the city.

“Be a good girl and do what your uncle and aunt tell you,” she said as she hugged her daughter goodbye.

Carmen shadowed Uncle Tino the rest of the day as he fed the different animals and cleaned the barn and chicken coop.

Early the next morning, Carmen heard the rooster crow and ran outside. Her uncle was already up and working. He took her hand and they went into the hen house. “Here’s how to pick up the eggs. You have to be very careful not to disturb the nest.” He picked up one egg after another and *gently* put them in a basket. Then they went back to the kitchen for a great big breakfast.



Carmen thought and thought about the hens and their eggs. She would love to surprise her uncle by getting the eggs for him. So she got up very early the next morning. She crept out of the house with the basket before the rooster crowed. She went into the chicken coop and carefully picked up the eggs from the nest. One by one, Carmen put them in the basket very gently. She was coming out of the coop when she lost her step. She fell and all of the eggs crashed to the ground and smashed. It was a huge mess. Carmen started to cry.

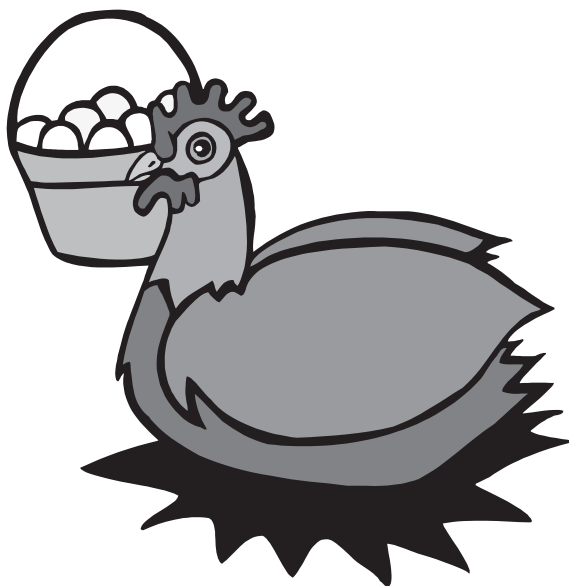
Her uncle heard her and came running out of the house. When he saw her, he started to laugh. She was a sight with all the broken eggs on her face. “That’s no way to get the eggs,” he told her.

Carmen started to cry harder.

“Now, now, no need to cry. Accidents happen to everybody.” Uncle Tino helped her up and gave her a hug.

“I’ll never get the eggs again,” Carmen promised.

“Of course you’ll do it again, dear. Next time, just ask first,” her uncle said.



36 Which sentence from the passage tells the most about the setting?

- A “It was wonderful being on a farm after spending the year in an apartment in the city.”
- B “It was only a few days since she arrived and she was already feeling at home.”
- C “The next day, Carmen’s mother boarded the bus back to the city.”
- D “It was Carmen’s first long bus trip.”

37 Read this sentence from the story.

“She was ecstatic.”

Ecstatic means the same as which word?

- A calm
- B quiet
- C sad
- D happy

38 What is Carmen’s problem?

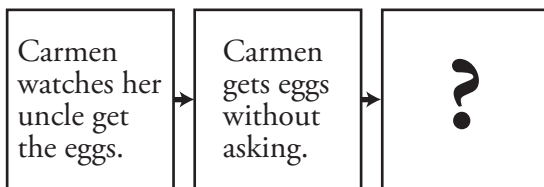
- A She didn’t like animals.
- B She broke the eggs.
- C There weren’t any eggs.
- D She missed her mother.



39 How did Uncle Tino make Carmen feel better after the eggs broke?

- A by showing her that these eggs were not good anyway
- B by making a big feast for dinner
- C by showing her the right way to get the eggs
- D by giving her a hug and showing that he wasn't angry

40 Look at the time line of what happens in the passage.



Which of these events should go in the empty box?

- A Carmen heard the rooster crow.
- B Carmen thinks about the eggs.
- C Carmen arrives at the farm.
- D Carmen falls down.

41 Which word best describes how Carmen feels after she dropped the eggs?

- A sleepy
- B rested
- C upset
- D excited

42 Read this sentence from the story.

“He picked up one egg after another and gently put them in a basket.”

What does gently mean?

- A with speed
- B with care
- C with strength
- D without care

43 What will Carmen probably do in the future?

- A Carmen will never visit the farm again.
- B Carmen will ask her uncle if she can get the eggs.
- C Carmen will not want to help her uncle with anything.
- D Carmen will return to her home right away.

44 What would be the best title for this passage?

- A “Butterfingers!”
- B “Ask First”
- C “Uncle Tino”
- D “One Chance is All You Get”

