

Name  American egg

#6

Date 10/22/26

It's Not Fair

① "It's not fair!" Megan cried. "I don't want to go to Nana and Poppa's stupid old wedding anniversary* anyway!" Q4

② Q1 Bursting into tears, Megan turned and ran down the hall to her room. Slamming the door, she threw herself onto the bed and sobbed into her pillow. Q2

③ A few minutes later, she heard a soft knock on the door.

④ "Yes?"

⑤ "It's Mom. May I come in?"

⑥ Q3 "Okay," said Megan, but she kept her face pressed into the pillow.

⑦ Megan's mom sat down next to Megan on the bed and said, "I know you're upset about missing Ashley's party, but we've had this trip planned since last fall. Being married for fifty years is a pretty big deal, and it will mean a lot to your grandparents for all of us to be there on their big day." Q4

⑧ Megan sat up and looked at her mom.

⑨ "But Ashley's so cool! And she invited me!" Megan said excitedly. "If I go to her party, then maybe everybody else will think I'm cool, too."

⑩ "Well, I already think you're cool," said Megan's mom.

⑪ Megan rolled her eyes and smiled in spite of herself. "That's because you're my mom. You're supposed to think I'm cool."

***anniversary**: a date that is celebrated because a special event happened on that day in years past

12 Mrs. Carney smiled and brushed a lock of Megan's hair away from her forehead. "Well, I do. And so do your grandparents, which is why they want you to be there to help them celebrate. After all, if they hadn't gotten married to each other all those years ago, you wouldn't be here! The least you can do is go to their big party."

13 "But Ashley's having a big party, too—the biggest! She has a pool, and her brother is in high school. His band is playing! Can't we get up and drive to Virginia early Saturday morning? Then I could still go to Ashley's party."

14 "No, we can't," replied Mrs. Carney. "The reason we're getting you and your brothers out of school that Friday is that it's such a long drive. We need to be up early Saturday morning to start helping your Aunt Margaret and Uncle John get things ready for the party."

15 "But I just *can't* miss Ashley's party, Mom!" Megan protested.

16 Mrs. Carney sighed. "Ashley will have other birthday parties, Megan, but your grandparents will have only one golden wedding anniversary."

17 "But what if Ashley doesn't think I'm cool enough to invite next year? This might be my only chance!"

18 "If Ashley is the kind of person who thinks you're cool in fourth grade and then decides in fifth grade that you're not, then she's probably not the kind of person who would be a very good friend. Choosing friends based on how 'cool' someone is seems pretty shallow, if you ask me."

19 "What do you mean by 'shallow'?" asked Megan.

20 "When someone is shallow, it means they only look at the outside of a person—like how someone dresses or wears her hair—instead of looking at how nice the person is on the inside."

21 "I don't think Ashley is like that, Mom," thought Megan. "I mean, she's been really nice to me the whole time we worked together on the end-of-year program at school."

22 "Well, then maybe Ashley invited you to her party because she *likes* you, not because she thinks you're cool. And if that's the case, then she's still going to like you when you get back from your grandparents' anniversary party. What do you think?"

23 "I guess. Maybe." Megan looked unsure.

24 "So, I have an idea," said Mrs. Carney. "Since you're going to miss Ashley's party, why don't you invite her to a party for just the two of you once we get back from Virginia? I could drive you to the Court Square Tea Shop downtown, and you and Ashley could have a special treat while I do my shopping."

25 Megan's eyes widened. "Could we really? I think Ashley would love that. When we were working on the school program, she was always talking about how she loves sweets, especially little cakes."

26 "That way, you and Ashley could have a chance to really get to know each other," Mrs. Carney said. "You wouldn't be able to do that at a big party with a lot of other people around."

27 "Yeah, you're right," Megan agreed. "I think it could be even better than going to the party!"

28 Mrs. Carney smiled. "So do you feel a little better about going to Virginia next weekend?"

29 "Yes!" cried Megan. "This way I get to be with Nana and Poppa and hang out with Ashley, too." Q5

30 "So can I get a hug?" asked Mrs. Carney.

31 "Sure," answered Megan, wrapping her arms around her mother's neck. "You know what, Mom? You're a really good problem solver. Thanks!" Q5

1 What is the meaning of "Bursting into tears" in paragraph 2?

- A screaming
- B laughing
- ☒ C crying
- D hitting