

The Swing That Was Taken

There is one red swing. There are two children who want it.

3 min read

Before you read

- **playground** — a place with things to play on
- **squeaked** — made a small high sound
- **waited** — stayed until it was your turn
- **shared** — let someone else have some too



Ana runs for the red swing

- ¹ Ana loves the red swing. It is the best one at the playground.
- ² On Monday she ran to it fast. She got there first.
- ³ On Tuesday she ran fast too. But a boy was already on it.
- ⁴ The boy was new. He swung high. The swing squeaked.



The swing is taken, so Ana waits

- ⁵ Ana stood and watched. She did not say anything.
- ⁶ She waited a long time. The boy did not get off.
- ⁷ Ana felt hot in her face. She wanted to shout.
- ⁸ Then the boy looked at her. He stopped the swing with his feet.
- ⁹ "Do you want a turn?" he said. "I can push you."



Rafa pushes, and Ana flies

- ¹⁰ Ana sat on the swing. The boy pushed. She went up high.
- ¹¹ His name was Rafa. "Tomorrow I push you," said Ana.

¹² Now they share the red swing every day.

Part A Choose the best answer

Circle the letter next to the right answer.

1. Which swing does Ana love?
 - A the blue swing
 - B the red swing
 - C the small swing
 - D the broken swing
2. What day was the boy already on the swing?
 - A Monday
 - B Tuesday
 - C Sunday
 - D Friday
3. What sound did the swing make?
 - A it squeaked
 - B it banged
 - C it rang
 - D it buzzed
4. What is the boy's name?
 - A Milo
 - B Ana
 - C Rafa
 - D the story does not say

Part B Write your answer

Answer in one or two sentences.

5. How did Ana feel while she was waiting? Find the words in the story that show it.

6. What did Rafa do that made things better?

Part C Think deeper

There is no single right answer here. Say what you think, and say why.

7. Ana did not shout, even though she wanted to. Do you think that was a good choice? Why?

8. Think of a time you had to wait for something you really wanted. How did you feel, and what did you do?

Answer key

For parents and teachers

Part A

1. **B** — the red swing | 2. **B** — Tuesday | 3. **A** — it squeaked | 4. **C** — Rafa

Part B

5. She felt angry or upset. The story says her face felt hot and she wanted to shout. Accept any answer that points to those two clues.

6. He stopped the swing, asked if she wanted a turn, and offered to push her. Accept any one of these three.

Part C

These answers vary. Mark the reasoning, not the answer.

7. Either answer can be strong. 'Yes, because shouting would have started a fight' and 'No, because she could have just asked sooner' are both good if reasoned. Watch for the child who only says 'yes' with no why — prompt with: what might have happened if she had shouted?

8. Any honest answer with a reason. Children often jump straight to what they did; prompt for the feeling word too, since naming feelings is part of the skill here.

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