

# Congratulations, Callie!

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Thunder clapped, and lightning flashed as rain poured from the clouds. It was only the first week of spring, but the skies acted as if they were angry at the departure of the winter. Callie bundled up in her raincoat and boots.

## Preview

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As she walked across the soggy school yard, she noted the three trees she had advocated to be planted the year before on Arbor Day. They were still small, but they were growing nicely.

Once Callie stepped inside the elementary school, she slipped out of her raincoat and boots. She didn't want to drip water all over the linoleum floors.

# Congratulations, Callie!

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Mr. Bellevue greeted her outside of his sixth grade classroom. "Welcome, Callie. Come on in."

Callie gave him a friendly smile. "Good morning, Mr. Bellevue."

The students in the class watched her curiously as she entered. Did they know

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The students clapped for her, and she realized he was holding out a certificate for her. She took it from him and smiled timidly. "Thank you, Mr. Bellevue."

"We are immensely proud of you, Callie. It would be good to have more school alumni like you."

"Thanks." She could feel the heat rising in her cheeks.

# Congratulations, Callie!

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Mr. Bellevue gave out a few more awards to students currently in his sixth-grade class, and then he dismissed Callie. The gloomy rain didn't bother her so much as she hurried back to the middle school. Wouldn't Mom and Dad be proud!

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# Congratulations, Callie!

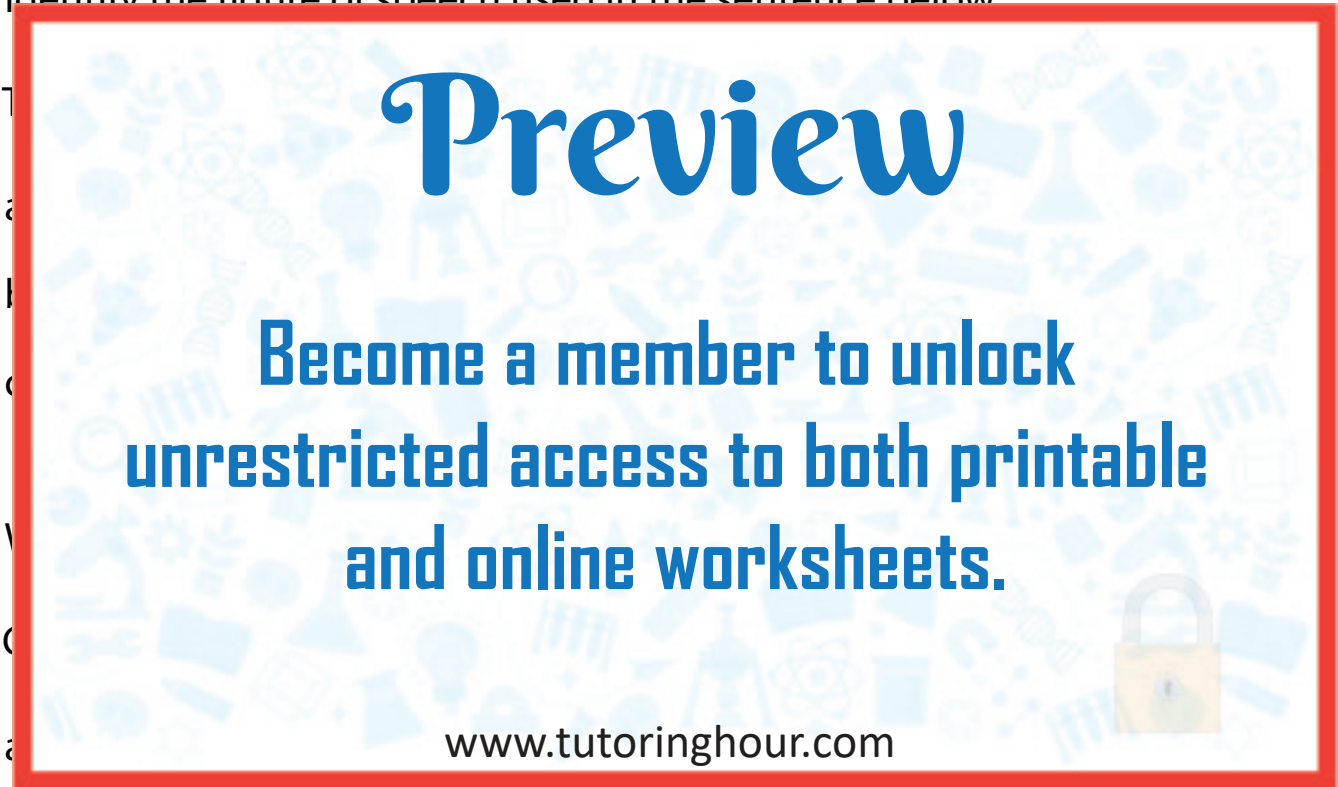
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1) Why did Callie receive a certificate from Mr. Bellevue?

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2) Identify the figure of speech used in the sentence below.



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3) **b) Callie stared at him with great admiration.**

4) Why did Callie not find the gloomy rain bothersome as she hurried back to the middle school?

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