

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **I Won a Week at Skateboarding Camp!**

Written by Brenda B. Covert

I stood on the busy sidewalk and stared at the blue and yellow flyer gripped in my hands. Excitement stole my breath away. Normally, I couldn't care less about an essay contest, but this one offered something I couldn't resist. The winner would receive a pair of skate shoes and a week at a popular skateboarding camp!

The world around me grew silent and faded away as I imagined the thrill of a week away from chores - a week of freedom to do what I do best and learn how to do it even better! What new tricks could I learn at camp? The possibilities dazzled me.

The bump of a large, floral tote bag brought me back to the present.

"Oops! Sorry," the frazzled-looking owner said. She hurried into the store behind me.

I shook my head and stepped over to a lamppost. I leaned against it, safe from further tote bag attacks, and studied the contest rules. If I was going to win, I needed to make sure I followed the rules for writing that essay.

"What's your favorite health tip for staying on top of your game?" the flyer asked in bold letters. "How does having a strong, healthy body affect your skateboarding skills? How do you protect yourself from skateboarding injuries? Tell us your nutrition, exercise, safety, or other advice in 500 words, and you might be a winner!"

I carefully folded the flyer into a small square and tucked it in my pocket. Normally, I couldn't care less about health and safety. I lived for risks! However, if I wanted to win that week at skateboarding camp, I had to start caring. I had to care as if my life depended on it.

I shoved my hands into my pockets and strode purposefully toward home.

### **Answer the following questions before you finish the story.**

1. Who is the character in this story? Supply an age, a gender, and a name.

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2. Describe one activity your character would enjoy at camp.

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3. What are some important guidelines for good nutrition?

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4. Name two activities that your character would enjoy as a form of exercise.

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5. List three safety tips for skateboard use.

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6. What is your favorite health tip?

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7. How does your character react upon receiving a notice about winning the contest?

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8. Describe your character's best friend.

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Using the ideas you wrote for the thinking questions, write an ending to the story. Be sure to include dialog between your character and the best friend in your ending. Write in complete sentences, using correct punctuation. Be creative and use these two blank pages.

Lined writing area for student response, consisting of multiple horizontal lines.

