Lesson 8: How to be Bossy

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Amy.

We're going to read a book. It's called: *A party. A party? A party! Let's party.*

As we read, I want you to pay attention to one character in particular. This guy, Command Colin.

See what you can notice about how Command Colin talks. Okay. Ready?

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: What did you notice about how Command Colin talks?

HOOK 2

The four friends in the story each talk differently: Statement Stella says statements. Question Quinn speaks in questions, and Exclamation Emma's sentences are always dramatic and exciting. And command Colin, well, he's bossy, isn't he?

He is always ordering people around. Like, for example, when the friends ride the bus, he orders the bus driver, "Stop here." When they arrive at the party, he tells his friends what to do, "Let's get some cake." When he gets cake, he even gives the server an order, "Give me a slice with extra frosting."

These sentences are commands. A command is a sentence that gives an order—it tells you you have to do something.

I like to remember that by doing this: A command gives an order.

Try that with me: A command gives an order.

One more time: A command gives an order.

Let's imagine Command Colin is here, and we're going to do whatever he commands. When Colin gives a command, everyone do what he says. Ready?

Colin commands: Touch your chin.

Great job! Here's another order. Ready?

Colin commands: Stomp your feet.

Great job! Let's do a few more. Ready?

Colin commands: Pat your head.

Colin commands: Wave your hands in the air.

Colin commands: Tap your knees.

Colin commands: Give me a thumbs up.

Phew. That was a lot being bossed around. Think you've got the feel of what commands sound like?

Let's put them in action. I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Now that you've had some practice following commands, it's about time you get to try giving some commands. Command Colin is getting ready to go to the party. What should he do? tell his friends to:

1. Get ready to go
2. Play with his cat
3. Roll in glitter

If you think we should command Colin to tell his friends to get ready to go, hold up one finger.

If you think we should command Colin to play with his cat, hold up two fingers.

If you think we should command Colin to roll in glitter, hold up three fingers.

STEP 2

Let's try another command.

Colin got a slice of cake at the party.

Discuss: How could you fill in the blank of this sentence to give Colin a command about what to do with his cake? _____ the cake.

STEP 3

From the story, I know Colin likes cake, so I commanded Colin to "Eat the cake." Maybe you came up with a different idea for a command.

At the end of the story, Colin says, "Get these leaves out of my hair."

Discuss: Tell Colin what to do to get the leaves out of his hair. Give him a command.

STEP 4

I gave Colin the command, "Brush your hair," to help him get the leaves out. Maybe your class came up with different ideas for commands, and that's great.

Now you can try giving a command all on your own. When everyone is ready, go to the next step.

STEP 5

Get these supplies.

STEP 6

Find the line at the top of your page that says "Name." Write your name on the line.

STEP 7

In the story, the party has a bunch of different things to do. Let's come up with a command that Colin should give at the party. Here are some options:

- Play tag with your friends.
- Swim in the pool.
- Sit on the ground.

Circle the command that you want Colin to give, or if you want, you can come up with your own idea for a command.

STEP 8

Turn to the person next to you. One at a time, say out loud what command you each picked.

STEP 9

Write your command in the speech bubble above Command Colin. If you came up with your own command, write that in the speech bubble. Remember to end your command with a period.

WRAP UP

Congratulations! You now have the power to command. Remember to use your powers for good. Before we go this time, let's write down what we've learned so far.

Teacher: Find the Command Colon poster. Write "A command gives an order" at the bottom of the poster. Hang up the poster somewhere in your classroom and use it to think about how and why we use different types of sentences.

See you next time, writers.