

Following Instructions

You've just gotten hired to baby-sit. You really want to do a good job. How will you make sure you do? You'll have to follow instructions.

Take a look at this list Tim's parents left for his baby-sitter. Could you follow these instructions?

Baby-sitting Instructions

Pay careful attention to the times at which you are supposed to follow each instruction.

Important Phone Numbers

The Newmans (neighbors)	555-5678
Poison Control	555-9012
	(or 911, in an emergency)
Police Department	555-3456 (or 911)
Fire Department	555-7890 (or 911)

Reminders

- Tim may not have sweets after 6 p.m.
- Let out the dog around 7 p.m.
- Make sure the doors are locked if you and Tim go outside.
- If you get locked out, the spare key is hidden under the planter near the front door.
- Tim may watch one-half hour of TV before bedtime.
- Make sure Tim brushes his teeth before bed.
- Bedtime is 8 p.m.
- Tim may read for a few minutes at bedtime, or you may read him a story.
- We'll be home by 10 p.m.
- Help yourself to food and drinks in the refrigerator.
- In case of an emergency, call us at the Halls, 555-4992.

Some of these instructions **must** be followed. Others are optional. Be sure you know the difference.

Make sure you know what to do in an emergency.

"Read through the instructions while your employer is still there. That way, you can ask him or her about anything that's unclear."



Follow Along

Are you ready to get to work? Reread the instructions on the left and the tips that go with them. Then use them to answer these questions. Write your answers on your own paper.

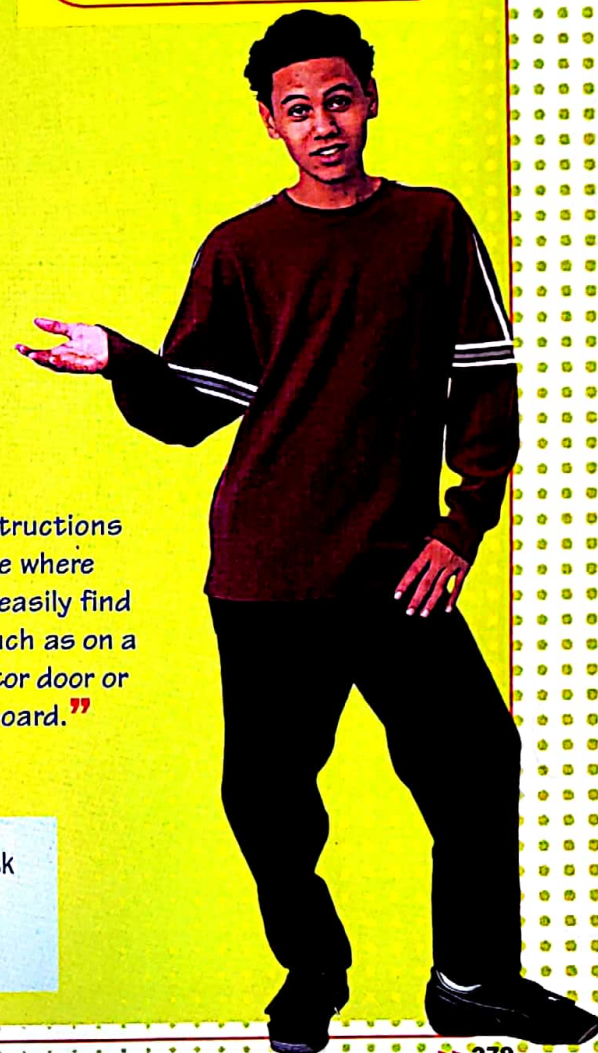
1. Where are Tim's parents? What is the phone number where they can be reached?
2. At what time should you let out the dog? What should you do if you leave the house?
3. It's 7:30 P.M. Tim wants a snack. Which two snacks could you give him?
 - a. a chocolate bar
 - b. a slice of cheese
 - c. a dish of ice cream
 - d. some carrot sticks
4. You and Tim go for a walk. You lock the door behind you—but forget to take the key! What should you do?
 - a. Go to the Newmans' house.
 - b. Call the police.
 - c. Get the spare key from its hiding place.
 - d. Call Tim's parents.
5. What must Tim do before he goes to bed?
 - a. Walk the dog.
 - b. Brush his teeth.
 - c. Watch TV.
 - d. Eat some sugar.

Report on It

Write a note to Tim's parents, telling them how the evening went. Make sure you tell what Tim ate, what he did, and when he went to bed.

Write Instructions

You've got a pet (real or imaginary). Your friend is going to take care of it while you are away on vacation. Write a set of instructions for your friend.



“Keep instructions in a place where you can easily find them, such as on a refrigerator door or bulletin board.”

Real-World Words

instructions: a set of rules or directions for doing a task
optional: okay, but not necessary
spare: extra