

Lesson 16: Vowel Teams

The New Maid

Today, my mom and dad and I drove to pick up the new **maid**. She will help mom help me **read** and do stuff that I like to do. I blue **jeans** and a white T-shirt with a shark on my name on the backside, "Tim". Mom had **tie** my **sneakers**.

Away we went. We drove up the **coast** Port to Boston to pick up the new **maid**. She **train** from the state of **Maine**. Her name is

Amanda. We had to **wait** a little bit, and then the **train** came down the tracks. The big Amtrak hissed and made a **squeal** like mom's **teapot** as it came to a stop.

Amanda stepped onto the platform with her bags and **suit/case**. We all went to **greet** her. Dad went to help with her **suit/case**. Me and mom helped her with the tote bags. She gave me a **sweet** kiss on my cheek that made my face red. Amanda had white bows at the end of her long black **braids**. Her **braids** went all the way past the **waist** of her **teal** dress. It is June and hot, hot, hot, even in the shade! "Let's go home!"

As we drove back along the **coast** from Boston to New Port, we saw lots of **sailboats** **cruise** across the bay. They were getting ready for the big **sailboat** race of 2025. Maybe Amanda will go along with us on race day. Mom wants to go to the outdoor film at the park and dad wants to **hear** the jazz music. I just want to eat fish tacos. So much to do. We will all have fun.

We got home and I ran fast to open the gate. Mom escorted Amanda up the **staircase** and to the left. This will be her new home now. I cannot **wait** for Amanda to unpack. I plan on a **paintball** game! I hope she likes **paintball**. Mom told me to sit still and **wait** for Amanda to unpack. I sat in the **main** hall in the big blue soft **chair** that we just got mom for Mother's Day. It went with her blue runner rug that was as long as the hallway. I was restless as I **waited**. I got a red **paintball** from my **jeans** pocket. It went "POP"! Amanda saw the big red glob of **paint** on mom's blue hall runner rug. She was quick to **clean** up the mess. Mom came and saw the **stain**. It was **plain** to see. She was a little upset, but then she began to smile. Just then, dad came to see about the **stain**. He was smiling as



Boston to **clean** and put on my it. It had to help me

from New came in by



well. What was everyone smiling at? The red **paint** went “pop” onto my shark T-shirt. The shark had red **paint** all over him.

“That shark must have had a snack” dad **said**, as he rubbed his huge hand in my hair and gave me a fist bump. Mom and Amanda went outside to soak the **stains** in a plastic tub.

Sunday came and we all went to church. It was a day of rest and dad told me that Monday Amanda can play a game of **paintball** after she **cleans upstairs**. That was my **goal** for Monday....to play a game of **paintball**.

Monday came and Amanda made me eggs and **toast**. I ate and then made my bed and brushed my **teeth**. I got my **paintball** guns, helmets, vests, eye **shields**, and all the **gear**, and extra **paintballs**; red and **green**, and put it all in the **breezeway**. I rode my bike up the driveway to get the **mail** and rode back. Amanda was waiting for me. I was so excited I almost rode my bike into the shrubs.

“Tim, I am **waiting** for you now.” I jumped off my bike and let it fall in the driveway. I ran to the **breezeway**. Amanda came to the **breezeway** and told me we had to **read** before we had our **paintball** game. We went inside to the den. Amanda gave me my Bible, and we began to **read** Luke. I like to **read** about the life of Jesus. Amanda reminded me how important it is to **read** my bible **daily**. Then we heard a **screech** outside. We both ran to **see** what it was. Dad was just getting out of his truck to look at the **heap** of steel where I **laid** my bike. Oops! Dad did not smile, and I did not get to play today. I had to clean my room.

Dad came to my room later that day and told me Amanda was **waiting** for me in the hall. Amanda was sitting in the big soft blue **chair**. The **clean** runner was now back in the hall with no red **paint stain**. She had my shark shirt on her lap. “I cannot play **paintball** with you today...” Just as a **tear** was rolling down my **cheek**, Amanda handed me my T-shirt, “unless you put on your shark shirt!”

Dad and mom met us outside in the breezeway. There beside dad was a brand-new red bike.

“Red suits you and your shark, son!” That’s all he had to say and then my mind went back to the red **stains**, the **stain** on my shirt, the **stain** on the rug and the red **stain** where Jesus bled to save us all from our sins. I saw my mom, my dad and Amanda standing there smiling at me. That’s the kind of love that Jesus has in his heart for all of us. And that’s the kind of love my family and our new **maid** have for me.

