

Her Own Worst Enemy: Answer Key

PREVIEW

DISCUSS THE TITLE, pg. 18

Suggested answers: a, b, and d are examples of being your own worst enemy.

PRACTICE PRAGMATICS, pg. 20

Sample conversation

A: Thanks for your help with my bike. You're really good at fixing things!

B: Thanks. Everyone says that, but I'm not sure why. You could have put that chain on yourself.

A: I don't know about that. I think you have a gift. Can you imagine yourself doing it as a career? Maybe not just repairing bikes but actually designing them maybe.

B: Oh, I just work on my own bike. It's just a hobby.

A: Well, I think you've got talent. What do other people think?

B: Well, people say I'm good at bike mechanics, but that's just because I've been doing it for so long I know a few things. But those people are just my friends. It's not something I could do as a real job.

A: Why not? What's holding you back? You love working on bikes. I see you doing it all the time!

B: Oh I don't take it that seriously. Do you really think I could make a living?

A: What might change your mind?

B: I don't know. Maybe if I got a job with a professional bicycle team. That would be interesting. I could work on performance bikes.

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A: You could do it! I know you could. Someone's got to do it. Why not you?

B: Thanks, I'll think about it.

READ FOR BACKGROUND: VOCABULARY, pg. 21

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. e | 7. d |
| 2. f | 8. l |
| 3. i | 9. b |
| 4. k | 10. c |
| 5. a | 11. g |
| 6. h | 12. j |

DISCUSSION: A STEM CAREER, pg. 23

Answers will vary. Here are some sample answers.

1. Today people have many appliances such as microwaves, dishwashers, lawnmowers, and many other household conveniences that save us time and energy so we can do other things like watch television, which is also an invention of the last 100 years. Also, factories and industrial machines now create products easily and more cheaply. However, the biggest invention is more recent. It is the computer and its relationship to the Internet. The computer by itself was not such a big deal, but the Internet connected people in new ways so it created new opportunities and new problems. Now people have cell phones that are basically pocket computers and people are dependent on them for communication, transportation, work, and social life. In the next ten years, our dependence on technology may grow even stronger, but we also may suffer from the downside. For example, there is a lot of cybercrime and some people are addicted to their phones or tablets.
2. Possibilities might include biology, microbiology, computer science, engineering, mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, math, physics, and many other sciences. Some of these can be combined to create interesting new fields of study and innovation.

DISCUSSION: STEVE HERBERT, pg. 26

1. He is interested in technology, he is good at it, and his supercomputer helps people do many things such as predict the weather, create new medical technology, and even make art.
2. The ability to build things, curiosity, a love of challenges, intelligence, love of his work, and imagination for what technology can do
3. *Answers will vary.* Someone who is curious about how things work, intelligent, and able to think about a problem is different ways to come up with new solutions to problems. They should also love computers.
4. *Answers will vary. Sample answer:* I would like to work in medical technology. This is because I want to help people, but I don't think I could be a doctor. I do like working with computers, so maybe I can create a new kind of artificial body part or a machine that helps save lives in some way.

DISCUSSION: A LIBERAL ARTS CAREER, pg. 28

Answers will vary. Here are some sample answers.

1. It is difficult for computers to write poetry, make paintings or show affection to another person. They are not good at dancing or other things that are expressive and creative.
2. I am interested in engineering, and I would work with computers, but I also need to work with other people, so people skills will be important, and maybe I need some creativity to come up with solutions to problems.
3. Here are some options: I like math and working with people, so I could be a teacher. I like to make things, so perhaps I could be a designer for a theatre or inventing new kinds of furniture. Maybe I could be an architect. I like music, but I am not a musician, so maybe I could be a producer.

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DISCUSSION: MOLLY DILL PROFILE, pg. 31

1. Effective communication in working with others, collaboration with others, making connections between different kinds of information and ideas, and being flexible. Also in order to understand the script and the characters in the opera, you need to have communication skills and empathy.
2. They feel fulfilled when they create something new. They also create something that the audience can enjoy. But more than enjoying it, the audience can think about their lives differently. They can think about important questions like why people do bad things. The opera can even give them hope or a dream of a better life.
3. *Answers will vary. Here is a sample answer.* Yes, society needs art. This is because art helps people to feel emotions and that is something that people need to do. I think art can help people think about what it means to be human. And of course technology can help us do wonderful things but we still need artists and designers to make the technology look nice and feel good to us.

PLAY: HER OWN WORST ENEMY

DISCUSS THE PLAY

Answers may vary. Here are some sample answers.

1. At the end of the play, Aida finally accepts that she might have talent when she gets an offer from a theatre professional. She also realizes that she has a lot of experience participating in theatre, but she does not have the same experience in science.
2. **Aida's parents** enjoy watching Aida as an actress, and they are enthusiastic about a future when they can continue to watch her perform. From their perspective, a future in theatre is glamorous.
3. Lily is more practical. She understands that it is difficult for actors to have a comfortable life because they rarely get a full-time job. She values getting a job with a regular income. Ken just thinks being an actress would be fun.

4. Aida has a casual relationship with her parents. They do not seem very strict, and they do not force her do things. She is also not afraid to argue with them. At the same time, they put pressure on her by constantly talking about their wishes for her.
5. For many people it depends. Aida decides to continue something that she has spent a lot of time on already. It makes sense that she continues acting after getting accepted at a famous performing arts school. However, for other people, however, becoming an actor or actress is not a good choice because it is hard to be successful.

If I were Aida, I would study science. I think she is right that it is a more practical career. It is easier to get a job, especially a job that pays. And of course. She can always act for fun. Many towns and cities have community theater programs.

PRODUCTION

ANALYZE THE PLAY

Answers will vary. These are suggested answers.

Notes

1. Aida is the main character, and she is getting ready for college. She wants to be a scientist, but her parents want her to be an actress. **We don't know what she'll do.**
2. The social issue is how young people decide on a career. Should children decide on their own careers, or should parents make a decision? Another issue is to think about what jobs will be available in the future.
3. **It's funny because the father wants his daughter to be an actress. Usually parents want their children to go into STEM fields, but in this play the parents and child are opposites. When they argue, it's kind of funny.**
4. Parents who want to convince their children to do something might empathize. Kids who are trying to decide on a career might empathize.

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LEARN YOUR PART

	Example two
admiring	My uncle is a doctor. Everyone in the family respects him because he helps people and he is successful.
careless	Fred keeps hitting people with his umbrella by accident because he is not paying attention.
cautious	Kelly does not pet strange dogs because they might bite her.
confident	Hoang is not afraid to go mountain climbing. He feels sure about his physical skills.
defensive	Hans does not like it when other players on the team criticize him. He always makes excuses.
empathetic	Pippin remembers how hard it is to be a new student, so he wants to help his classmate find an apartment.
frustrated	Mel can't do his work because the equipment is broken.
humor	Tyrone can't find his phone anywhere. Then he realizes that it is in his hand.
insecure	Yollie won't show anyone his poetry because he thinks it is not good.
patience	Sulyman is always happy to repeat the instructions.
resigned	Jasmine does not want a dog, but her family does, so she accepts it.
secretive	Everyone wants to know why Lin missed a week of class, but she doesn't tell them.
teasing	Jay pretends to see a bug in Lila's hair. She gets scared. Jay laughs.