





## Talk About It

These dogs are taking a bus ride. Where do you think they are going?



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# Man's Best FRIEND

# Puppy Trouble

by Liam Engell

## Vocabulary

neglected    misunderstood  
appreciated    desperate  
risks    endured  
bluffing    obedience



## Word Parts

**Prefixes** are added to the beginning of words and change their meanings.  
*mis-* = “badly” or “wrongly”  
misunderstood = “wrongly understood”

**W**e got back from the grocery store and found the house a mess. I had **neglected** to close the bathroom door again, and our Saint Bernard, Bernie, had left chewed toilet paper all over the house. Bernie was happily jumping up and running in circles. He had no idea that what he had done while we were away was not **appreciated**.

Bernie had already chewed Mom’s favorite handbag and my new pair of shoes. Mom was also concerned that Bernie jumped up on people when I took him out for walks. She didn’t want to take **risks** with the little kids on the block, and I couldn’t blame her.



Mom said that if Bernie didn't start behaving, we couldn't keep him, and I knew Mom wasn't **bluffing**. I could tell she wasn't kidding. Her message was clear, so there was no way it could be **misunderstood**. And now Bernie was in trouble again.

I was **desperate**. If I didn't think of something really fast, I was going to lose my dog!

Then I had a really wonderful idea. It meant I would have to give up watching some of my favorite TV shows to spend more time with Bernie. In the end, though, if I could keep him, it was worth a try.

Just then, Mom finished putting the groceries away. She came into the living room and saw the mess.

"I've had it with this puppy," Mom said in a tired voice. "I'm just about out of patience, Lin."

"I know, Mom," I said, "you've **endured** Bernie's chewing and messes for three months now. But I've never had a pet before. If I'm not training him the right way, then it's not Bernie's fault. Can we try taking him to **obedience** school?" I asked.

And that's just what we did.



## Reread for Comprehension



### Generate Questions

**Draw Conclusions** Authors don't always tell everything that happens. Readers have to use what they already know and what the author *does* tell to draw conclusions. As you draw conclusions, ask yourself questions, such as, "Are there clues that support my conclusion?"

A Conclusions Chart can help you analyze what you read. Reread the selection to draw conclusions about the ending of the story.

Text Clues	Conclusion