

Name _____

Read the story. Use the context of the story to figure out the meaning of the underlined words and phrases.

Margaret's New Legs

There was a new student in Fiona's class. Margaret was in a wheelchair. The other students had a lot of questions for Margaret. "Why can't you walk?" they asked. "What happened to your legs?"

"Don't interrogate her," their teacher, Miss Kimball, said. "It is impolite."

"I don't mind answering their questions," Margaret said. "I lost my legs in a collision. But I am going to get new legs soon."

"How does a person get new legs?" Fiona asked.

"I am being fitted for prosthetic legs,"

Margaret told them. "You will see."

A few days later Margaret walked into class! Everyone was astonished. "Would you like to see my new legs?" Margaret asked. Everyone was eager to see Margaret's new legs. "They are made out of plastic," she said, pulling her slacks up to her calves to show her classmates. "They are very light and very strong."

"Science is making great strides," Miss Kimball said. "It is amazing and impressive, what can be done to help people these days."

"Actually, my doctor told me that people have made and worn prosthetics for thousands of years," Margaret told them.

"How does the doctor make sure it fits?" someone asked her.

"Because every person and every amputation is unique, every prosthetic is custom-built. These legs were designed especially for me. Even if someone my own height and weight had their legs amputated, my prosthetic legs wouldn't necessarily fit them."

The bell rang. It was time for recess! "Can you run?" Fiona asked Margaret.

"I'm still practicing that," Margaret said. "But I will sure try." She was happy to be joining her new friends on the playground on her brand new legs!

Rude

Specially-made

Fake

progress

Wonderful

Cut-off limb

Surprised

Question

Accident

Name _____

Now rewrite the sentences below, choosing from the words and phrases provided the one that best matches the meaning of the underlined word.

1. Don't interrogate her.

2. It is impolite.

3. I lost my legs in a collision.

4. "I am being fitted for prosthetic legs.

5. Everyone was astonished.

6. Science is making great strides.

7. It is amazing and impressive, what can be done to help people these days.

8. Because every person and every amputation is unique, every prosthetic is custom-built.

ANSWERS

1. Don't question her.
2. It is rude.
3. I lost my legs in an accident.
4. I am being fitted for fake legs.
5. Everyone was surprised.
6. Science is making great progress.
7. It is amazing and wonderful what can be done to help people these days.
8. Because every person and every cut-off limb is unique, every prosthetic is specially-made.