

# Debski Challenge

Standing in someone else's shoes

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Every lesson is an opportunity to exercise emotional intelligence. Debski is an amazing individual who operates under stress while preparing food as a volunteer. Ask questions to elicit an understanding that Debski is a volunteer.

What does standing in her shoes mean?

When you experience a tough time, do you think that others care to 'stand' in your shoes?

Do you think that you 'stand' in other's shoes when they are faces with challenges?

How will you become better at this skill?

Possible ways to achieve this is by thinking and asking what the person in a situation experience in terms of emotions, physical discomfort, or any other issues that may pertain to the situation/incidence.

# Who is Debski?

- Lovely lady
- Stunning chef!
- Preparing meals
- Mushers, volunteers, and spectators
- Creative, generous, and ingenious!
- Iditarod blessing - a real life angel!
- What is it like being Debski?

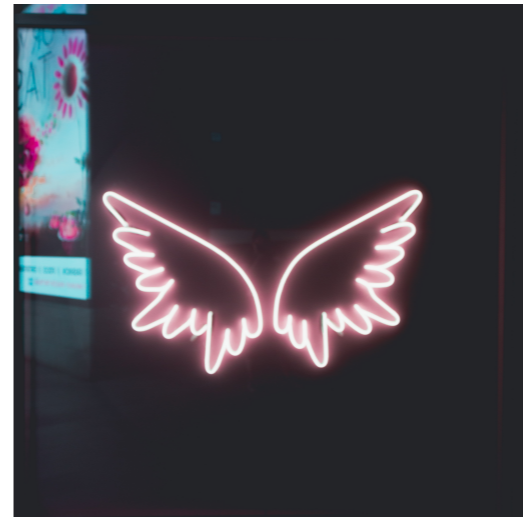


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Debski is a lovely lady who is a stunning chef who chooses to prepare meals for mushers, volunteers, and spectators. Her pioneering spirit and years of being involved as a volunteer provided her with much experience to prepare and produce hearty meals from a selection of ingredients available to her. She cares about the Iditarod, all its participants, offers her time and skills to make a difference in the lives of others. During the race in early March, most of Alaska is still frozen over and the temperatures average well below zero. A plate of lovingly prepared hot food makes a huge difference. Debski's meals are a blessing to all. Other than seeing smiles, people enjoying her food, and verbal thanks, Debski does not receive money for her services. In fact, she still needs to clean up after cooking all the food. How would you feel if you were Debski?

# Debski - The Chef

- Volunteer
- Prepares and cooks food
- Supplies
- Not all - add 1
- Under pressure
- Help Debski



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Now that you know more about her, her volunteering and her supply list, there is one other fact that is worth sharing. Debski supplements the supplies from her own purse for items that bring extra flavor to her food. When you decide on what your favorite dish might be, you can add one special ingredient that is not listed on the ingredients list.

While the race is under way the pressure is on! Help Debski with your favorite recipe and provide all the steps that she needs to follow so that it will save her preparation time and reduce her stress.

Before you jump into action, let us look at a paragraph structure that will work well for this kind of writing task. We are jumping back to ancient times and an ancient language that can help us gain a better understanding for this task while learning some other related valuable vocabulary words too!

# Latin Root

- Root words - why?
- Prefix and suffix
- *Numerus* = number
- Any other words?
- Worksheet



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Latin root words make up about 60% of the modern English language. We can add affixes in the form of prefixes and suffixes to them as to change meaning and the way we use them. If you are not clear about what these are, do not despair. It is easy. A prefix is a part that is added at the beginning of a word. A suffix is a part that is added at the end of the word. Let's look at the Latin root *numerous* for this lesson. Can you guess the English word? Yes, number is correct! Can you think of any other words that contain this root?

This root have links to math concepts that are important. Discuss cardinal and ordinal numbers. Ask them to complete write the correct concept in the space provided.

On your Root Word Vocabulary Worksheet underline/highlight all the roots. This is easy and a fun way to see how many different words we have in English that came from the Latin *numerous*.

The best way to remember this forever is to work with it. Write down the meanings. Use a dictionary to help you define this well. Construct excellent sentences that explain the meaning of the word well. I encourage you to learn vocabulary at every occasion because it will serve you well for the rest of your life.

# Editing Practice!

- Important job!
- Take time
- Apply skills
- Fixing = fantastic!
- Be fabulous!



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Grammar provides the structure for your writing. The only way that humans can learn this is by doing little by little over a long period of time. Apply all your skills and think critically about why you make fixes. Do not lose hope if you miss some of the fixes. You need to learn to identify the parts of speech one at a time and keep practicing them at every occasion.

# Writing

- Read the prompt
- Understand it
- Apply vocabulary insight
- Enumerative = list the steps in order
- Plan, brainstorm, and do!
- Retell
- Write
- Review and edit



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Read the prompt and make sure you understand what is asked. If not, talk to your teacher or anyone that can give you assistance. As you read the prompt, identify all the steps and the order that you need to take to complete it.

The best is to ask your brain questions and then use the answers to write keywords. This process will help you to capture what you want to say. It is easier than you think. Just do it!

As soon as you have three keywords per line move on to the next one. Limit yourself to anything from five to eight facts. If you have more then revisit and see what you can combine or leave out. An enumerative paragraph serves a very specific purpose. It lists the steps in logical and also numerical order. This is why your keyword outline and retelling the paragraph **before** you write it makes sense. You will trap the errors if there are any. This is a powerful technique that you can use for all writing tasks. Remember why you are writing this paragraph. It is to help Debski who will be under pressure. Your job is stand in her shoes and make it super easy for her!

Once you retold and checked that your keyword outline make sense, then and only then start writing your paragraph on loose leaf paper. Remember to double space! This is always helpful if you need to change anything. Review your work and make final edits, if needed.

# Assistance

- Do a little every day
- If stuck then
  - Ask your teacher
  - Ask your parent/s
  - Search for answers
  - Never give up!



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The best advice to become an eloquent writer is to do a little every day. Spaced repetition is how experts train! If you do not believe me, ask anyone who has run the Iditarod!

Sometimes we humans get stuck and that is OK! What is not OK is to stay stuck. Ask your teacher for help, alternatively a loving parent or grandparent might be a great resource for you, too! If all else fails search the internet for answers. Remember that dictionaries are an excellent place to start if there are any words that you do not understand in its context.

Be brave, learn well, and never, ever give up! Remember, Debski does not stop cooking before she used up all the ingredients. The mushers that arrived in Nome to savor Debski's divine dinners did not give up, nor did the darling Iditarod chef, and neither should you!