

# THE CONTEST

by Damien Galeone



<sup>1</sup> My brother Sam is my best friend. He's really good at playing guitar, and he also writes songs. He and his friends play music in our garage every weekend. He's also more outgoing than I am. He has a lot more friends than I do and he loves going to parties.

<sup>5</sup> I'm a bit shy than he is, and my hobbies usually keep me at home. I like to play video games and draw pictures. I'm pretty good at it, but I don't have too many friends besides my brother. That's OK because Sam and I get along great. We hang out and watch movies. Sometimes we make videos on my phone, he plays the music for them, and I draw cartoons. We're both  
<sup>10</sup> imaginative but in different ways.

Last Friday afternoon, someone knocked on the door. It was our neighbours, Jim and Scott. They are two brothers a little older than us who live next door. They're nice boys, but they are totally different from Sam and me. They're sporty and they're into skateboarding. We never hang out with them.

Jim told us that they wanted to enter a contest, for the best skateboarding video. For the contest they needed to enter a video with music and with them doing tricks on their skateboards. He said they didn't know anything about making videos or playing music. And they needed our help. They said we were the most creative boys they knew. We said we would think about it. I wasn't sure I could do it. I usually only made videos of things like paper cartoons and sometimes Sam playing guitar, but nothing like someone doing tricks on a skateboard. But Dad said he could teach me. The next day he rented a video recorder from the library and he showed me how to use it. He said he made some videos when he was in university. He taught me how to do all sorts of things.

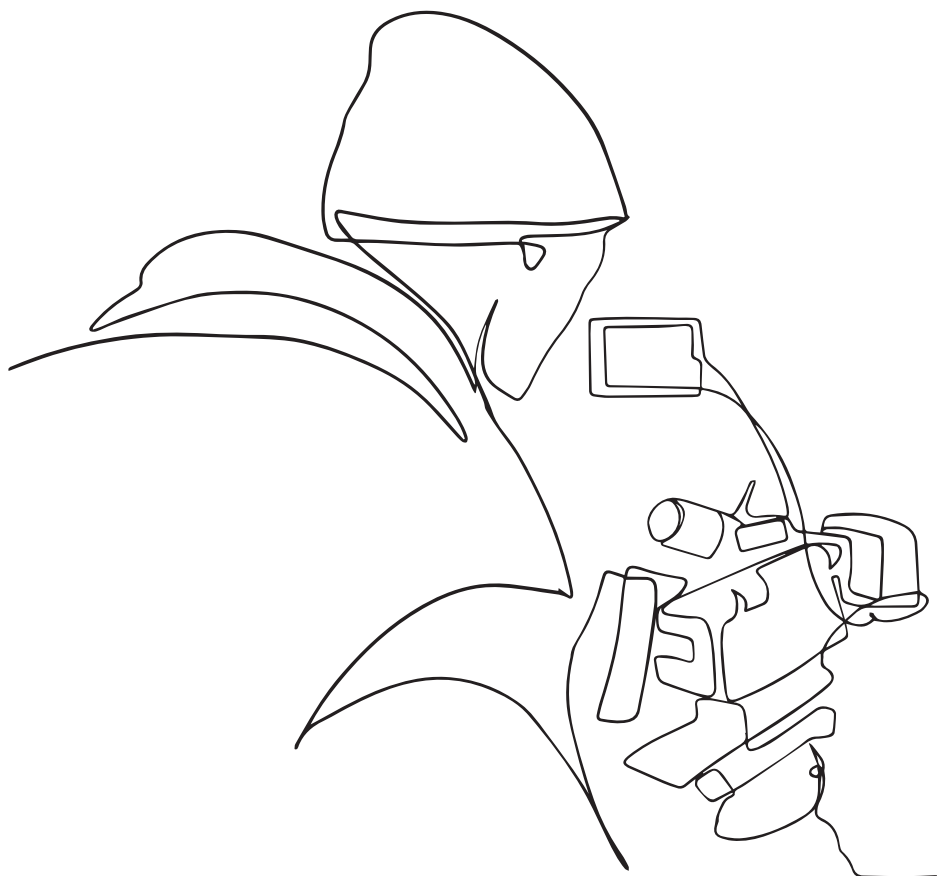
When we met Jim and Scott the next day, we were really nervous. They're pretty self-confident and athletic, but they're also really friendly. They told Sam that they heard him playing one song in the garage the weekend before that they loved. He went right to the garage and began to practice. They told me what they wanted in their video, and I said I thought I could do it. They said they knew I could do it.



For three hours every afternoon, I shot videos of them doing skateboard tricks in the park. Sam practiced his song over and over again in our garage. Mom gave Sam some ideas on how to improve the song. She used to play piano and guitar when she was younger. When I got home each night, Sam and I talked and shared ideas about the video.

I was having so much fun, but I was tired! Every night I got in bed and fell asleep immediately. I didn't realize how much exercise I got running around the park with the video recorder.

On Friday night Mom and Dad helped us to edit the video and put the music to it. It was fun for all of us! Finally, on Saturday we gave the video to Jim and Scott, and they loved it! They invited us out for pizza, and we talked and laughed the whole time. I think I had about five slices of pizza. It was a really nice week. Sam and I made some new friends, and I got more exercise than I had all year. Oh yeah, and we found out today that they won the contest!



**1 Find the English equivalents in the text.** / Najdi v textu český překlad slov.

nejlepší = .....	kreativní = .....
kytara = .....	knihovna = .....
píseň = .....	přátelský = .....
kreslit = .....	garáž = .....
dívat se na filmy = .....	vylepšit = .....
někdy = .....	(i)hned = .....
soused = .....	zábava = .....
soutěž = .....	vyhrát = .....
pomoc = .....	

**2 Answer the questions.** / Odpověz na otázky.

- 1) What can you say about the narrator?  
.....
- 2) What do you know about his brother Sam?  
.....
- 3) Do Sam and his brother differ from Jim and Scott? If so, in what ways?  
.....
- 4) Why did Jim and Scott knock on their neighbours' door?  
.....
- 5) Why did Jim and Scott choose Sam and his brother?  
.....
- 6) How many people participated in making the video?  
.....
- 7) What can you say about the video making process?  
.....
- 8) Why is making a video about skateboarding physically demanding?  
.....
- 9) What final adjustments took place on Friday night?  
.....
- 10) How did the four boys celebrate the completion of the video?  
.....

**3 a) Fill in the correct prepositions.** / Doplň do vět správné předložky.

- 1) He's really good ..... playing the guitar.
- 2) He and his friends play music ..... our garage every weekend.
- 3) He loves going ..... parties.
- 4) My hobbies usually keep me ..... home.
- 5) I'm pretty good ..... it.
- 6) Sometimes we make videos ..... my phone and he plays the music ..... them.
- 7) Last Friday afternoon, someone knocked ..... the door.
- 8) They are totally different ..... Sam and me.
- 9) ..... the contest they needed to enter a video ..... music and ..... them doing tricks ..... their skateboards.
- 10) They didn't know anything ..... making videos or playing music.

**b) Fill in the correct prepositions.** / Doplň do vět správné předložky.

- 1) They're ..... skateboarding.
- 2) We never hang out ..... them.
- 3) I usually only made videos ..... things like paper cartoons.
- 4) He went right ..... the garage.
- 5) Sam and I talked and shared ideas ..... the video.
- 6) I didn't realize how much exercise I got running ..... the park.
- 7) ..... Friday night Mom and Dad helped us to edit the video and put the music ..... it.
- 8) They invited us out ..... pizza.

**4 Find and correct one mistake in every sentence.** / Najdi a oprav v každé větě jednu chybu.

- 1) My brother Sam is the my best friend. ....
- 2) He's really good at playing guitar, and he also writing songs. ....
- 3) I'm a bit shyier than he is. ....
- 4) We didn't never hang out with them. ....
- 5) Jim told we that they wanted to enter a contest. ....
- 6) They said we were the more creative boys they knew. ....
- 7) He learned me how to do all sorts of things. ....
- 8) We were really nervously. ....
- 9) They said me what they wanted in their video. ....
- 10) They invited us out on pizza. ....

**5 Circle T (TRUE) or F (FALSE).** / Zakroužkuj, zda je věta pravdivá (T) nebo nepravdivá (F).

- |                                                                           |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) The narrator and Sam are like brothers.                                | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) Sam and his band don't perform in clubs on the weekends.               | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Both brothers are social and clubby.                                   | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) The brothers have a lot in common with their neighbours Jim and Scott. | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) All four boys agreed to work on the videos together.                   | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Sam and his brother got help and support from their parents.           | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7) Sam and his brother were pretty confident from the start.              | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8) Sam chose one of his songs and started practicing.                     | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9) The narrator found the job demanding but very enjoyable.               | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10) The final video was a real success.                                   | T <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> |