

Tricks for Trixie

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Trixie was such a good and smart dog. Trixie's owner, Robbie, wanted Trixie to be entered into the "Tremendous Tricks for Dogs" contest. *I know Trixie could win first place* Robbie thought to himself. Robbie was going to practice all kinds of tricks with his dog like fetching the ball and newspaper, rolling over, and dancing. The first prize was \$25.00 and dog food for six months. Robbie told his friend Alex what he was planning to do. "I'll help you train Trixie," said Alex. "We'll start after school tomorrow," said Robbie. "We only have about two weeks until the contest."



After school the next day, Robbie and Alex met at Robbie's house and started trying to get Trixie to do the easiest trick, fetch the ball. When the boys threw the ball and yelled, "Go get it Trixie," Trixie just sat there looking at them. "Why isn't she going after the ball?" asked Alex. "I'm not sure, but let's try showing her the newspaper," said Robbie. The boys threw the newspaper and told Trixie to go and get it. But again, Trixie just sat there wagging her tail. "I don't get it," said Alex. "She just sits and looks at us."

After several days of practice, the boys decided they would not enter Trixie into the contest, but they would go and watch the other dogs. The contest started, and the judge in charge of calling out commands yelled his first one. He threw a ball that went clear across the park. All the dogs started to run. The amazing thing was Trixie pulled away from Robbie and began running as fast as she could and got the ball and brought it back to the judge first! "The winner is this dog with a leash and no entry name on my list," said the judge. "Whose dog is this?" asked the judge. "It's mine," said Robbie. "Trixie pulled away from me when you yelled the command." "We practiced all week, but today is the first time she obeyed the command," said Robbie. "Well, we have a winner," said the judge. "Congratulations Trixie!" said the judge. He handed Robbie a check for \$25.00 and a certificate for free dog food. The contest continued with other tricks and other winners. "I knew she could do it," said Robbie to Alex. "Yep, Trixie tricked us," said Alex. Both boys laughed and gave Trixie a well-deserved hug.

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Who was Trixie's owner?
 - A. Alex
 - B. Robbie
 - C. The judge
 - D. None of the above

2. What was the first prize in the contest?
 - A. Ten dollars and a new dog house
 - B. Fifteen dollars and dog food
 - C. Twenty-five dollars and dog food
 - D. Twenty dollars and new dog toys

3. How many tricks did Alex and Robbie want to teach Trixie?
 - A. One
 - B. Two
 - C. Three
 - D. Four

4. Where was the contest?
 - A. At Alex's house
 - B. At school
 - C. At the park
 - D. At Robbie's house

5. Which trick did Trixie win at the contest?
 - A. Fetch the ball
 - B. Fetch the newspaper
 - C. Dance
 - D. Roll over

Tricks for Trixie – Answer Key

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