Balloon Exercise

1. A parent has been attending the local school parent organization meetings for some time and has recently become more involved. Her local president comes to her and says that since she has taken on quite a leadership role in the organization, she would like for her to help on a statewide level by becoming a part of the Parent Leadership Council. Even though she is nervous, she is happy to have been asked and she agrees.

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8. The morning of the meeting, her neighbor calls to say that she can't take the kids to school after all. She scrambles to find another way for them to get there, and finally is able to call her cousin. Her cousin agrees, hesitantly, to take the kids to school.

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9. Driving across town for the meeting, she gets lost on the freeway. She isn't used to driving in this part of town, but is finally able to get there, 10 minutes after the meeting has started.

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10. She parks on the street, since she realizes that parking is an extra $10.00. She is afraid that she will get a ticket, but has no choice since she cannot pay the $10.00 to pull in the pay lot.

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11. When she walks into the room, everyone has already started. They all know each other, and she feels strange being the only one who doesn't know anyone. She suddenly wishes that her pants fit better, and she weren't so frustrated.

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12. When she is in the meeting, she is asked to introduce herself and tell something about herself. She feels very self-conscious about talking in front of everyone, but everyone seems nice and smiles at her when she talks.

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13. Once the meeting has started, everyone starts using strange language. There a lots of acronyms and names that she doesn't understand, but she tries to keep up. The woman beside her tries to explain as things go along, but she doesn't want to be a distraction or look stupid.

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14. When the meeting ends, they ask her if she has any parent input. Since she wasn't sure what they were talking about most of the meeting, she says that she has no input. She feels badly that she doesn't have anything to add.

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15. They set up the next meeting for Wednesday at 2:30, which means that she will have to get off work again and get someone to pick the kids up from school.

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16. Leaving the training, she realizes that she did get a parking ticket after all!