

brian's ramblings /4/ the way people talk

When I got to Callie's house, her mother was running the vacuum cleaner. She _____ to run it every time I visit. I rang the bell but nobody heard it _____ of the noise. I looked around for **Callie's cat**. "Squirrel," I said. For some reason, Callie named her cat Squirrel. I _____ my hands together tight and whistled.

Squirrel came running out of the garage. _____ where he spends most of his time, actually. Callie's parents don't let him in the house at all. The vacuum cleaner stopped, and I rang the bell again. This time **Callie came** _____ away. "Come on in," she said. She gave Squirrel a little scratch behind the ears before she closed the door on him.

"He's _____ **catching mice** and leaving them on the welcome mat."

"What does he do that _____?"

"Catch them or leave them on the mat?"

"I'd _____ him to catch them for food."

"He gets plenty to eat. I think he catches them for fun."

"So why does he leave them on the mat?"

"**Cats** do that kind of thing. Presents, I _____. My parents don't like it. They try to make him stay in the garage _____ they don't step on a mouse every time they open the door."

We took off our shoes and left them on the landing. **Callie's mother** was standing in the kitchen scrubbing the _____. "Hello, Brian. How are you today?"

"Hello, Mrs. Clemson. I'm fine. How are you?" It sounds pretty stupid written down, but that's _____ people talk.

"Do you kids want anything to eat or drink?"

"No thanks," I said. Callie was obviously in a _____.

"Well, have a good time."

"We _____," I said.

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right » seems » sink » so » that's » the way » will**