

brian's ramblings /7/ tapping the **biggest computer** is the best policy

I put a little piece of sheet metal in the place where the thing was bent. I screwed it back together. "Try it now," I said. It _____.

"You're **a genius**," said Callie.

"You're the _____ who knows the computer stuff," I said. "I'm only a repair man." I wasn't just _____ her. It's _____ what Callie can do with a computer.

Callie still didn't want to go outside. She wanted to show me how her new **modem** worked.

"It's _____ stuffy in here," I said. "Can't we _____ open the window?" Callie was so involved in hooking up the modem that she didn't seem to hear me. I **opened the window** and she didn't _____ notice.

"Now," she said. "_____ I have to do is dial a certain number and put the **telephone receiver** down in these holes. You can see that they're designed to _____ a telephone."

I probably knew as much about the equipment as she _____. But I let her explain everything. She seemed to enjoy _____ off her knowledge.

"My own computer isn't very powerful. But I can tap the power of the **biggest computers** in the country."

"You have to pay to use the big computers, don't you?"

"Sure," said Callie. "_____ you know how to get around it."

"What do you mean?"

"If you're good enough _____ programming, you can **trick the computer** into _____ you use it for nothing."

"You're not doing that now, are you? That doesn't seem honest."

"I never said I would do it. I only said that it can be done. I get an allowance. I can _____ to pay." Callie was acting **defensive**. I think she would have said something different if I had acted _____ instead of suspicious. I had a feeling she did know how to steal time from the big computer.

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