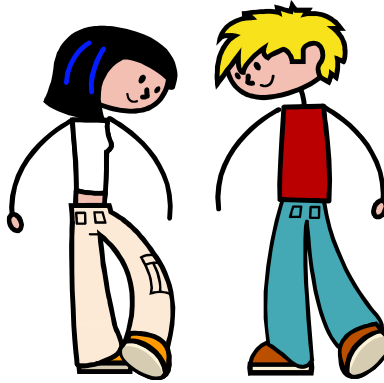


A Story  
For  
Michael

By Uncle Tim

Once upon a time, there was a boy named Michael  
and a girl named Emily.



They were brother and sister.

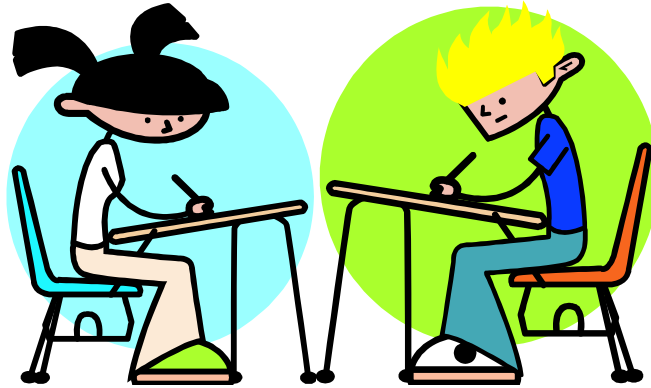
Michael was a good boy,  
*most of the time.*

Emily was a good girl,  
*most of the time.*

They played together well, *most of the time.*



One day, they were doing their homework (I said they were good).



One of them (I don't remember which) was chewing on a pen.

The other saw this and said "What are you trying to do -eat your pen?"



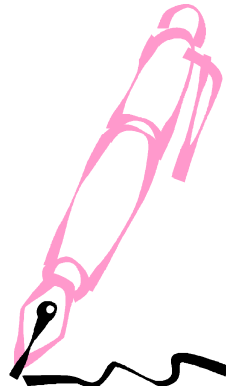
To which the other replied - "So what if I am. I bet I can eat more pen's than you!"

So, the argument started.

After a bit, they agreed on a contest to see who could eat the most pens. They took out all of their pens and named and labeled them to keep track of who had eaten the most.



Being a young gentleman, Michael let Emily go first.  
So Emily ate her first pen - Abigail - it was a pink  
"My Little Pony" pen.



It crunched and snapped, and didn't taste very  
good but Emily was able to swallow it.

Michael then took out his first pen, Arnie. It was a baseball pen for the Saint Louis Cardinals.



Michael said 'Batter up!' and bit it into pieces.



Next was Emily's turn.

She ate Betty. It was a Barbie pen.



Michael ate Bob. Of course it was a "Bob the Builder" pen.



Emily choked down Carla.

Michael chewed on Chuck.

Emily went after her next pen - Dora, the explorer. It wasn't getting easier, but she kept on going.

Michael wasn't happy. He had expected Emily to not be able to eat this many pens. It made him very sad because his next pen, Dix, was his Chicago Bears pen.



He didn't want to eat it, but he didn't want to lose.  
So he ate Dix. But it didn't go down easy. It got  
stuck.

Emily and Michael didn't know what to do, but being  
good smart kids, most of the time, they called  
their mother and father.



Their mother and father, being good parents, took Michael to the emergency room.



The doctors did an operation and took out the pen.

Michael and Emily's mother and father had a long talk with them after this was all over.

They said "You two shouldn't argue."

They said "You two shouldn't get into contests like this."

They said "You two shouldn't eat pens."

They said "You two shouldn't name them."

They said "And most of all you should never eat one named Dix because then we'll have to take you to the hospital to get what removed?"

Both Michael and Emily shouted out together

"a pen - Dix!"

