

Study Guide for “Barbershops in Charlottesville”

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Pre-reading Discussion Questions:

1. In your home country, how often do you usually get your hair cut? Is having a good haircut important to you?
2. In your country, do men and women go to separate places to get their hair cut, or do men and women go to the same place?
3. In this country, who cuts your hair? Do they do a good job?

Vocabulary:

Disorganized
Towel

Damp
Razor

Cape
Scissors

Equivalent
Absolutely

Post-reading discussion questions:

1. How often does the writer have his hair cut?

2. Does he like to spend a lot of time on his hair? Explain.

3. What did the first barbershop look like?

4. What was the barber doing while he shaved his client? Do you think the writer thought this was a problem? Explain.

5. Why did the writer decide to leave the barbershop?

6. When he went into the second barbershop, he decided to stay. Why do you think he thought this barbershop was better? Was he correct? Explain.

7. How is barbershop service different in Colombia than it is in the U.S.?

8. From this story and from your own experience, how are barbershops similar to or different from barbershops in your country? Are barbershops the same as hair salons? Explain.

9. Have you had a haircut in Charlottesville? Was your experience like the writer's? In what ways? Have you ever gone to a barbershop or hair salon in Charlottesville? If yes, where? Would you recommend this place to other people?

10. What advice would you give to someone new to Charlottesville about getting a haircut?

What is the main idea of this story?

- a. Barbers should not watch TV and cut hair at the same time.
- b. Barbershops around the world are pretty much all the same.
- c. Finding a good place to get your hair cut can be a big challenge for newcomers to a new country.

Write your experience:

Title: _____

When I first came to Charlottesville, I had a problem the first time I needed to get my hair cut.

First,

Then,

Finally,

In conclusion,
