

1.

It was late one evening. I can't remember what it was about, but my dad and I had a very big argument (争吵) when my mom was away. We both said things we didn't mean, and in the end I said, "I'm leaving." And he said, "Good. The sooner, the better."

I threw a few things in a suitcase and closed the door angrily behind me, not knowing where I was going. After walking aimlessly for about 20 minutes, I stopped at a local supermarket. Then my phone rang. It was my mom calling. She said, "Hey, Mary. Where are you? Dad is worried about you."

"How can he worry about me? I've been away for nearly half an hour, but he didn't call," I said with annoyance (烦恼). My anger returned and I remembered all the hateful things he'd shouted to me. "Listen, Mom. You can tell Dad that I'm fine. I'll call you tomorrow," I said and hung up.

I walked around the store, trying to get my thoughts together. By the time I paid for my purchases, it had been much later than I used to be out alone. When I left the supermarket, a large piece of white paper was in front of me. On the piece of white paper were these words: "Please come home! I miss you and I'm worried about you!"

Then a car pulled up beside me. Hanging out of the window was my dad. Beside him, smiling gently, sat my mom. And that's when I started laughing. I laughed so hard that I cried. Despite (尽管) my best efforts to run away from home, my father finally managed to track me down. I couldn't leave now, not with him sitting there with caring eyes.

21. Hearing Mary decided to leave home, Mary's father was very _____.

- A. worried B. angry C. nervous D. surprised

22. After her mother called her, Mary _____.

- A. became angrier than before B. gave in to her father
C. cried and calmed down D. agreed to go home

23. What does the underlined word "purchases" in Paragraph 4 mean?

- A. actions Mary regretted B. goods Mary bought
C. telephone calls Mary made D. lessons Mary learned

24. What probably happened at the end of the story?

- A. Mary returned home happily. B. Mary still refused to go home.
C. Mary's father became angry again. D. Mary's mother hated her father.

2.

As a funny student, Brian loved watching comedies (喜剧) best and hoped to become a comedy actor one day. When he heard about the talent show (才艺展示) to be held at this school, Brian decided to take part in it.

He had never acted in public before, and he was very excited. But some students laughed at him. "You are not funny but silly," Ken, one of his classmates, said to his face. "No one will like what you do," another boy also said to him, loudly.

Brian couldn't understand why they were so unkind to him. For a moment, he thought about giving up the show. But he remembered how much his friends liked his jokes, and also his teachers said he was very funny. So he decided to prepare for the show.

Brian did a great job at the talent show. Everyone loved his performance (表演), and he won the first prize! His teachers and friends were proud of him. Even so, Ken told Brian that he was not funny, and that he would never be successful. Brian didn't understand why Ken said so, but he realized that it had nothing to do with him. He confidently continued to work towards his dream.

As the years went on, Brian met more people like Ken. "You'll do a terrible job," they said to him. Luckily, most people encouraged him and some helped him to become even funnier. He got a lot of chances to perform in movies. He was even invited to appear on television. His fans thanked him because his comedies made them feel good when they were unhappy.

Now Brian is a big comedy star! He is doing what he loves best. He never feels worried like those unkind people, and he laughs all day long!

25. What was Brian's wish as a student?

- A. To be a comedy actor. B. To go to a famous university.
C. To take part in a talent show. D. To make more new friends.

26. What did Brian do after winning the first prize?

- A. He began to understand Ken.
B. He became a teacher of acting.
C. He encouraged others to join him.
D. He went on working hard.

27. Brian's fans thanked him because his comedies brought them _____.