

The Meeting

1 Jessica was **furios**. She was still the company president, and when she called a meeting for 10:00, she meant exactly 10:00. “Where is everybody?” She asked **aloud**.

Suddenly, the door to the secretary’s office opened. “Well, at least one person’s coming,” Thought Jessica, as she picked up her papers for the meeting. Steps came
5 closer and closer. Jessica looked up. “Oh, it’s you,” she said in a cold voice. “What do you want?” Then she raised her hand to her throat as she realized what was happening.

“To watch you die, Jessica!” Jessica heard her name and the **shot** at the same time. Her name, **echoing** again and again, was the last thing she ever heard.

10 After the police left later that afternoon, the office **staff** had a meeting. Morrison, the accountant, **broke the silence**. “Shall I be the first to say it? Ok! I’m glad she’s dead!”

“How can you say that?” said Jessica’s assistant, Maria. “The police might think you killed her!”

“Well, dear, someone did! And many of us had a **motive**. Even you, Maria!” Morrison replied.

15 “That’s right, Maria,” Derek, an advertising manager, agreed. “We all know she wasn’t going to **promote** you. Angela was going to get the better position, not you.

“You actually think I could kill someone over something like that? You must be joking!” **Exclaimed** Maria. “And what about you, Derek?” Jessica took that big advertising account away from you and gave it to the new man, Martinez. He’ll have
20 your job someday. You’ll see!”

“That kind of talk isn’t necessary, Maria. Control yourself!” said Morrison. “I’m sure Martinez tried hard to get that account. We all know how hardworking he is.”

“He’s **aggressive** all right, and very **ambitious**,” added Derek. “I’m **convinced** he’ll do anything to become the president of the company someday.”

25 “Did you notice how many times he met with Jessica last week?” asked Maria. “What I asked him what was going on, he said it was just something about the account.”

“Well,” commented Derek as he **calmly** arranged his papers, “at least we’re never going to have **to sit through** any more meetings with Jessica.”

The Meeting

- 1. furious**
- 2. aloud**
- 3. shot**
- 4. to echo**
- 5. staff**
- 6. to break the silence**
- 7. motive**
- 8. to promote**
- 9. to exclaim**
- 10. aggressive**
- 11. ambitious**
- 12. to be convinced**
- 13. calmly**
- 14. to sit through**

The Meeting

(adv) not silently

(n) the act of firing a gun

(v) to resound, to repeat

(n) employees

(pv) to make noise and interrupt quiet

(n) a reason for doing something

(v) to move someone up in a job

(v) to say loudly and excitedly

(adj) forceful, assertive

(adj) eager, a person who wants to rise above their current position

(pv) having a strong belief

(adv) no excitedly, quietly

The Meeting

(pv) to stay until the end of something that might be boring/unhelpful/unnecessary