

A minute later, there was a knock at the door. Matt went to answer it. Diana sashayed into the room in shorts that showed off her long, tan legs. She, like Carmen, wore boots and a sweater, but that's where the similarities ended. She glided to her seat and sat up straight with confidence. She played with her nose ring and smiled at Alex. Carmen tried to get her attention, but Diana was too focused on Alex.

Matt cleared his throat. "All right! Now that everyone is here, we can begin. The rules are simple. It's like twenty questions, but without yes or no answers. Alex will ask a question, which will appear on the TV screen. Diana and Carmen will have a minute to answer. Their answers will appear on the TV and Alex will choose the one he prefers.

"After that, the current score will show. The girls will know which number they are, but Alex won't. Girls, in order to avoid any bias, please don't give any indication which answer is yours. All of this will be done on your phones. I will give you the web address and we can begin."

Matt walked over to Carmen to help her get set up, and just kept smiling at her like he wasn't toying with her happiness. Carmen watched him walk over to Diana. He was obviously ogling her. She seemed to be enjoying the attention, and even flashed him a flirtatious smile. Carmen thought that Diana might be locking down her backup plan. Matt eventually tore himself away from her.

"Alex, you'll have thirty seconds to ask a question and then again to choose an answer. The timer's on the screen. Go!"

Carmen held her breath as she waited for the question to appear. She hoped a minute would be long enough to craft a suitable answer. There was a ding sound and Alex's first question popped up on the screen.

What is your biggest pet peeve?

She immediately began typing her answer. When the minute was over, her and Diana's answers went on the screen.

Girl 1: People chewing with their mouths open.

Girl 2: People walking slowly in front of me.

The answers were replaced by a scoreboard.

<u>Girl 1</u>	<u>Girl 2</u>
1	0

Carmen wanted to smile at Alex, but then she remembered she wasn't supposed to let him know whose answer he chose. She looked at Diana, who kept a poker face. The next question came up:

What type of relationship do you think is most important in life?

This one, Carmen thought, was a lot deeper than the first. Carmen answered 'friends,' and Diana answered 'romantic.' *Didn't we say sisters before misters? Is she lying to try to look better?* Carmen thought that it probably wouldn't work, and it definitely shouldn't be allowed. Alex chose Diana's answer, to Carmen's chagrin. *Fine. Two can play at that game.*