

The Boston School

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The Prairie Home Companion is a radio program that has been playing live for many, many years in the US. You can hear it on the radio station NPR (Non-Profit Radio) station throughout the USA and the world.

Here are the lyrics of the song the host opens the show with. Please listen to the words and fill in the missing words in the blanks below.

PART 1: SONG

Oh hear that ol' piano from down the avenue.

I smell the pine trees. I look around for you.

Oh my sweet, sweet someone comin' through that door.

It's a Saturday and the band's playin'.

Honey, could we ask for more?

PART 2: SONG

I came to Minnesota to have a look at snow,

which we don't have much of back in San Diego.

Oh the dazzlin' white and sky of dazzlin' blue.

And then of course I come indoors

and spend a couple hours with you.

PART 3: Questions

Directions:

As the host introduces the show to the radio listeners, we find out some information about where the show is being performed and a little bit about the performers of the evening. Please answer the following questions:

- 1) What is the name of the theater and street where the Prairie Home Companion is performing?
[The Fitzgerald Theater on Exchange Street](#)
- 2) What city in Minnesota is this theater?
[Saint Paul](#)
- 3) There are four musicians that the host introduces. What instrument does each of the musicians play (1 each – 4 in total) [piano, guitar, mandolin and fiddle \(violin\)](#)
- 4) What's the name of the sound effects man? [Tom Keith](#)
- 5) What's the name of the show's sponsor and its website address? [Yoplait light tuna;](#)
www.yoplait.com
- 6) What's the name of the host of the show? [Sara Watkins](#)
- 7) What sound effect does our [host](#) want to try to use during the night's program? [Her impression of a monkey](#)
- 8) There are 3 standard skits that the originator of the program, Garrison Keillor, performs in. The host mentions the names of 2 characters he plays and the name of one performance. What are these 2 character names and skit?

[Character Names: Guy Noir and Lefty](#)

[Performance: News from Lake Wobegon](#)

PART 4: The snowmobile trip

1. The host, Sara, admits to not knowing much about Minnesota. What are the three things she learned from her homeschooling days that she includes in the snowmobile trip skit?
[Minnesota is cold, flat and has moose.](#)
2. Who does she go on a snowmobile trip with? [Tom, the sound effects man.](#)
3. When they finally reach their destination, what does Tom do and why? [Cut a hole in the ice to go ice fishing](#)
4. What does Tom catch? [A giant carp](#)
5. How does Tom ask Sara to help him? [He asks her to get the rifle from the snowmobile to kill the giant carp](#)
6. What happens when Sara goes back to the snowmobile? [A moose comes \(that you can see for miles because it is so flat☺\)](#)
7. What animals scare the moose away and where do they come from? [Two ice monkeys from Monkey Island.](#)
8. After the moose is scared away, what happens to Tom? [The giant carp attacks him and he gets stuck under the ice.](#)
9. Why can't Sara just leave on the snowmobile? [There's no manual to read to explain how it works, no flashlight to see and no light at all.](#)
10. How is she rescued? [Tom, the sound effects man mysteriously shows up in a helicopter to take her away.](#)