Mr. Watson liked to tinker with things. He had a workshop in the garage, where he kept a lot of tools, and when he wasn’t building something or fixing something, he was taking something apart and trying to make it “better.” Mrs. Watson hated it when her husband tried to make “improvements” to things around the house that were not broken. When she went into the garage one day and found that he was looking carefully over her hair dryer, she got angry.

“Do you remember when you ‘improved’ the dishwasher, and we ended up getting our kitchen walls power-washed?” she demanded. “Do you remember when you ‘improved’ the microwave, and I put a steak in to defrost and it disintegrated?!”

“Don’t worry,” Mr. Watson said, waving her away. “This will be great.”

The next morning when Mrs. Watson got up to get ready for work, she took a shower. She put on her robe, and she went to do her hair. There was her hair dryer, on its rack, looking the same as it always did. She sighed with relief, picked it up, and turned it on. The hair dryer roared to life, and began to shimmy in her hand. Mrs. Watson screamed, and let go. But the hair dryer had so much power that it didn’t fall. It hovered in the air and began to move forward. Mrs. Watson ran, and the hair dryer began to chase her around the house!

Mr. Watson heard the commotion and came running. He saw the hair dryer bearing down on Mrs. Watson, who was getting tired after her fourth lap around the living room. He hurried to the bathroom and yanked the plug from the wall. The hair dryer suddenly stopped, and fell, lifeless, to the ground. Mrs. Watson was so furious she couldn’t speak.

That afternoon, she called Goodwill and they came and picked up all of Mr. Watson’s tools from the garage. Mr. Watson sat on the front stoop and watched the truck pull away. But he wasn’t sad. He had a backup toolbox stashed under the porch, and he had an idea for how to improve his electric garage door opener.
DIRECTIONS: Read each story event. Then tell what happens next in the story.

1. Mr. Watson looks at his wife’s hair dryer.
   NEXT: ____________________________________________________________

2. Mrs. Watson hates that her husband is always trying to “improve” things around the house.
   NEXT: ____________________________________________________________

3. Mrs. Watson gets up, takes a shower, and puts on her robe.
   NEXT: ____________________________________________________________

4. Mrs. Watson turns on the hair dryer.
   NEXT: ____________________________________________________________

5. Mrs. Watson drops the hair dryer.
   NEXT: ____________________________________________________________

6. Mr. Watson sees what the hair dryer is doing.
   NEXT: ____________________________________________________________