W6A, Lesson 7, Essay 4, Draft 1

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Narrative Essay

**The trouble of liberation in the epidemic**

Last month I went to South Luogu Lane with two of my best friends, Grace and Candy, as well one of my classmates, Isabella. South Luogu Lane is an old Chinese lane, where you can buy all different kinds of tasty food and funny things. Isabella and I hung out togeher because she was too bored at home, so she wanted to go outside and have some fun. But that day we got into trouble.

Isabella's home is very close to mine, so she invited me out to play, but I thought it was boring with just the two of us, so I suggested that she invite my friends to come with us. We quickly make decision were we should go, and my two other friends agreed, too. My friends had class from the morning until noon that day, so first we made an appointment at Candy’s house at 2 p.m. But they told me that their teacher had class early at 11:00 in the morning, so we quickly changed the time to 12:30 in the afternoon. Isabella's home and my home are close to the same subway station. The subway station next to Candy home is the next stop of the subway line near us. So I made an agreement with Isabella that we should meet at the subway station near my house at 12:15 p.m. Because we changed the time quickly that day, we didn’t notice that Isabella didn’t check her phone and didn’t see that we changed our time. So actually Isabella and I didn’t have a deal because she didn’t know about our changes.

At 12:00 p.m. I quickly ran to the subway station. When I arrived it was exactly 12:15 p.m., but Isabella didn’t show up. So I called her, but she didn’t answer. I called her at least four times, but she didn’t answer. After 20 minutes, she called me.

“Michelle!,” she said. “I’m so sorry. I just saw you guys changed the time. But I was eating lunch. Please wait for me! I’ll be there quickly.”

“Okay! I’ll wait for you!” I quickly whispered to her. “Please be quick.”

After 15 minuet shes called me again

“I’m here! Where are you?” she asked

“Hi! I’m her! Come,” I shouted to her.

She finally came, but I had waited for her for at least half an hour. Candy and Grace were also waiting for her.

We quickly arrived the subway station beside Candy’s house and met them. We also used one hour to get South Luogu Lane. After we arrived, we found out we need to have IDs to get in. My two friends and I all had our IDs, but Isabella didn’t have hers, so she called her mom and asked her to send her a picture of her ID.

The day was hot, everybody was sweating, and we had to show our ID to get in. But my classmate Isabella forgot to bring her ID. We were impatient of waiting. Everybody was waiting for her. The clouds moved slowly because there was no wind. Every person who sells fans came to bother us. The cicadas on the trees were buzzing, peddlers were yelling. We all feel thirsty, but we still couldn’t get in.

Finally, her mom sent her a picture of her ID. We all showed our IDs and finally got in.

Word Count:

*Captain’s Notes: Michelle, good job writing a story about your recent experience. I have already gone through and helped you to correct most of your basic grammar errors, etc. I want you to focus on fixing the story more than the details. Two things. First, don’t slow down the story with too many unnecessary details and repetition. For example, in the second paragraph you get stuck on repeating details about time and location. Say something once then move on. Only repeat it if it’s necessary or you are using the literary effect of repetition. Second, because you get caught up on the details of time and place, as you describe the struggle to meet your friend, the second half of the story moves too quickly. Nothing really happens. What exactly is the “trouble” you and your friends get into, as first paragraph suggests? Also, you should know that encountering a challenge doesn’t mean getting into “trouble.” As the reader, I kept waiting for something to happen, but I felt that nothing really happened, until the last paragraph, when you write, “Every person who sells fans came to bother us. The cicadas on the trees were buzzing, peddlers were yelling. We all feel thirsty, but we still couldn’t get in.” Finally some nice description, but then the story suddenly ends! You never describe what actually happens in South Luogo Lane or the “trouble” you got into there (I assume you got into trouble based on your introduction in the first paragraph). So I suggest you describe more of the experience of waiting for your classmate to get into South Luogo Lane. How did you and your two other friends feels? What conversations did you have while waiting? What did they have to say? They did the peddlers say to you? What did they look like? How did you respond to them? Did you buy their fans and bottles of water? Or did you just stand out under the sun and suffer being hot and thirsty? What was the lane like? What adventure did you have once you got in? Was it worth it in the end? Please add more dialogue and description, and focus less on minor details. Finally, what does your title mean? What is “liberation in the epidemic”? Liberation from what? Please explain, thanks. You can do it!*