

Theme: Action

Witness to a Suspicious Event

I could not believe what I was seeing. Chaotic thoughts raced through my mind and my legs were trembling ...

Using the sentences given above in any part of your composition, write a story of at least 150 words describing what happened. You may make use of the following points:

- 💧 the events leading up to the situation described
- 💧 what caused you to end up in that state
- 💧 what happened to you in the end

You may also make use of your own ideas to include other relevant points to write an interesting and original story.

Before You Write



Basic Story Premise

(This is only a suggested plot based on the suggested answer.
You may have a different plot as long as it is relevant to the given question.)

- 💧 I was camping in a jungle in Malaysia when I left my group to take a leak.
- 💧 I stumbled upon an old hut and decided to investigate. I realized that I had unwittingly come across a kidnappers' hideout.
- 💧 I was knocked unconscious by someone.
- 💧 I woke up in a hospital bed and learnt that my teacher had rescued me just in time.

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It was the second day of the annual scout camp. We had so far been blessed with wonderful weather. The sun shone brightly in the sky and yet, a gentle breeze blew continuously to make the heat bearable. We were divided into small groups. Each group was headed by a teacher in charge. My scout group of five, with our teacher, Mr Tan, was on the final leg of our hike through the dense Malaysian jungle. Along the way, I felt a sudden urge and left my group to answer the call of nature. I told them that I would soon rejoin the group and asked them to proceed towards our base camp first.

I wandered a little deeper into the jungle and found a quiet spot among a clump of bushes to relieve myself. As I stood behind the bushes, I spotted an old wooden hut just ahead. I could hear muffled screams of “Help! Help!” coming from inside the hut. I then saw a big, burly man enter the hut. He was clad in an old singlet and a pair of khaki trousers. He was wielding an axe in one hand. Once he was inside the hut, I could no longer hear the screams. My heart skipped a beat. My first instinct was to take to my heels and run back to my camp mates as fast as my legs could carry me. After all, there was safety in numbers. However, curiosity got the better of me and against my better judgment, I crept towards the hut. Peeping into the hut through a gap between the window shutters, I could see a girl seated on a chair in the middle of a bare room. She was tied to the chair and her mouth was gagged with a rag. Beside her was the big, burly man. He was not hurting the girl but keeping a close eye on her. I spent a long time secretly watching them from outside the hut.

I could not believe what I was seeing. Chaotic thoughts raced through my mind and my legs were trembling. I slumped to the ground, lapsing into unconsciousness ...

I woke up in a hospital bed with a splitting headache. There was a bandage around my head. Mr Tan and my camp mates were all by my side, looking at me with anxious faces. I also spotted my parents in my ward. Mr Tan told me that I had been knocked unconscious by a wooden pole. My attacker was the big, burly man’s accomplice. He had seen me peeping through the window of the hut and realized that I had stumbled upon their hiding place where they held a girl they had kidnapped while awaiting her parents’ ransom. The kidnappers wanted to get rid of me so that I would not be able to tell the police what I had seen.

Fortunately, Mr Tan and my camp mates had come looking for me at just the right moment after they got worried when I failed to rejoin the group for a long time. From afar, they witnessed a man hitting me on the head. I then slumped onto the ground and the man went into the hut. Mr Tan immediately crept up to me and carried me to safety without drawing the attention of the men in the hut. Meanwhile, John, one of my camp mates, called the police on his mobile phone. He also called for an ambulance.

The kidnappers were taken by surprise when the police stormed their hideout, arrested them and rescued the kidnapped girl. While these events unfolded, I was sent to hospital.

Lying in the safety of my hospital bed, I realized how close I had been to danger. If Mr Tan had not rescued me in time, I might have been dead. I was lucky to have survived. Curiosity killed the cat. In this case, my curiosity could have killed me. Yet, looking at things from another angle, I felt that it was as if it had been the intervention of fate. I was glad that not only was I safe, the little girl who had been kidnapped was, too.