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EN40SL2

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Ms. Smith

Safe

I stepped from the warm shelter of the office into the cold, dimly lit street and heard the beeping as the alarm set and the door locked itself behind me. Safe. I slipped my gloved fingers into my pockets and began walking, keys still in hand, just in case. My boots crunched against the hardly packed snow with a regular beat. I was a ticking clock. One, two, left, right. ✓

I walked the familiar street and counted the blocks in between the dim streetlights. ^{Write out numbers under 10} 9 more. I would be home soon. Safe. The cold wind burned my cheeks while the crisp air ^{nice distraction} shocked my lungs and encouraged me to keep time. Left, right. I looked up from the pavement and noticed the dark figure joining me in the distance. He walked comfortably and slowly. Maybe he would turn off soon. The blocks between me and the shadowy man grew fewer with each step. ⁸ more. ✓

The dark figure grew larger, and taller, and broader as I progressed. I noticed his ungloved fists resting tensely at his sides and saw the black fabrics covering the majority of his face. I squeezed my keys in reassurance, just in case. I walked briskly and shifted to the right side of the sidewalk, claiming my section of the path we were sharing. The dark figure remained, with no intention of turning off, or moving to his own side. I thought about turning off and taking the main street, but that was an extra six blocks. No. I was just being anxious. I would be home soon. ✓

I was close enough now to the man that I could see the glowing ember of his cigarette and a cloud of smoke as it escaped his mouth. The stranger's pace slowed as I approached. He shouted out to me, but I ignored his advance. I was just going to walk past him quickly and make it home, 2 more blocks. ✓

I picked up my pace and held firmly onto my keys, my hand sore from squeezing. He shifted swiftly and stood in front of me, interrupting the ticking of my clock, one... He yelled at me and grabbed my shoulders. My eyes were fixated on the snow at my feet. He yelled once more, frustrated, and released my shoulders with a jerk. He murmured as he walked away but I heard nothing. ✓

I looked up sharply and saw the light above my street sign. My clock began to tick again, faster, until I was running the last block to my safety. I ran up the stairs, heard the familiar click as my key found the lock and pushed the door open. My body slipped into the warm foyer and I sunk down to the floor, feeling the firm safety of the door against my back. I breathed a long sigh and stood to my feet. I shifted the brass lock and heard the reassuring click as it locked me in, away from the street. Safe. The ticking of my clock slowed and I marched the steps to my bedroom. Tomorrow I would repeat the walk again. Today, I had made it. Safe. ✓

*You did well to build
Anxious, Abbey! Well done!*

Alley

Explaining Your Writing Variables

Identify the five writing variables you have chosen for your writing task

Central Idea: The daily harassment women face

Form: Short Story

Purpose: To bring attention to equality and women's rights

Public Audience: People reading blog posts about equality

Context: www.equality-rights.com

Explain how your chosen writing variables work together to make your text effective.

5 marks

I believe that a short story is the best way to bring attention to equality and women's rights because people can read it and insert themselves into the mind of the person in the story. I think this story shows the daily harassment that women face because it shows what women can go through each day just because they are women. I believe it is important to share this information with people who are interested in equality and rights for everyone. I think the easiest way to provide the most access to my short story would be to post it on a blog about equality. This way, younger people could also get interested in the topic of equality. Sharing this post on a blog like www.equality-rights.com would also have other links to more articles/stories about equality. This would help spread the word about equal rights in a creative way.