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EN40SL1

November 22, 2017

Ms. Smith

Taking Flight

The 8 a.m. air was scented like cold rain and damp grass, that was until I entered the shoebox of a cabin, where I met my mid-air neighbours for the next four hours. I was sweating and there was a hint of butterflies dancing in my gut. As I searched around for seat 19C – my aisle seat – I sang *Moanin'* in my head, since it was the last song I listened to on my previous flight. Music seems to calm my nerves. 16, 17, 18, 19! That was it! I planted myself onto the clammy and spongy leather seat and felt the immediate chill from the fans above me. I looked to my left – avoiding eye contact with my seatmate – through the head sized double pane window. What I witnessed was a warzone. Transparent water droplets were bombarding the white wing of the plane like miniscule missiles whose only jobs were to bring a little bit of gloom into our lives. Contrarily, the only picture on my mind was the lush California sun caressing green palm trees, and the soft lapping of waves on the beaches of the golden state. I soon snapped back to reality as I felt the g forces from the mighty Boeing engines as we began to defy gravity.

effective lead up to this ↓ love!

Being loosely packed around me, I was now used to the arid air and also the bumblebee drone of the engines. The luminous, orange morning sun peeked over the horizon, entering a vast blue sky that was now empty like a school on a snow day. What then captured my attention was a dimly lit screen, about the size of a DVD case. I quickly clicked on an enticing purple cover, featuring ice white lettering and a supposed "couple" dancing. The musty scent of the cabin and baritone drone of the engines faded away as I was immersed into the melancholy story that is *La La Land*. My mouth was parched like a mid-summer afternoon as it hung open in awe. For the next two hours I barely noticed the flight attendants strolling down the aisle, or the baby crying near the back of the plane. Once those two hours were over,

I only had to wait for a couple of minutes until my ears started popping like a red balloon. I started to chew mint gum which sent an arctic-like chill down my spine, reminding me of home. Also, I listened to one of my favourite up tempo songs. Music seems to calm my nerves. Thump. The broad tires gently contacted the smoothly paved runway, and the flight was over.

love!

Soon, through what sounded like a tin can, the captain of flight AC 8579 welcomed me and my one-time friends to San Francisco, and thanked us for flying Air Canada. We stepped out on the tarmac which was as black as a crow's feathers, in the 20° and sunny Golden City. The smell of burning jet fuel mixed with coastal air invaded my nostrils and I was beginning to feel the magic that is the American dream. We strolled over to the baggage carousel, all secretly praying that our belongings had made it. I started humming *City of Stars*, since music seems to calm my nerves. I scooped up my baggage first try like a space rendezvous and luckily nothing was missing. Paranoia was sitting on my shoulder like a parrot, but it was quick to fly away. Once I knew everything and everyone was okay, I enjoyed my time in the beautiful city of San Francisco. As scents of fresh fish, fog, and plants intertwined in the air, people were joyous and unique. Historical buildings mixed with modern architecture littered the skyline, and in the background was the Golden Gate Bridge. Trams were whooshing by and the odd horn interrupted the serenity of the city, but nothing could take away from its history, and the nostalgic feeling of being in a city with such character was unlike any other.



Explaining Your Writing Variables

Identify your choices for the five writing variables for your writing task

Central Idea: Describing a flight to San Francisco
 Form: Short story
 Purpose: To describe my flight from Calgary to San Francisco
 Audience: People of any age who are looking to go on vacation
 Context: Air Canada travel brochure

Explain how your choices for the writing variables work together to make your text effective.

5 marks

110

By using the form of a short story, I will be able to successfully describe my experience flying from Calgary to San Francisco. This is because I could utilize stylistic devices such as imagery and similes to give the reader the ability to connect to the story and believe that they are going on the flight. I think that people who are looking to go on vacation will enjoy my story because it will show them how simple and easy flying really is. By showing this simplicity, it could clear up or eliminate any existing phobias about flying that prevent vacationers from choosing flight as their method of travel. I believe that putting this story in an Air Canada travel brochure will effectively reach my audience because often if people want to get away, they will go to a travel agent's office. In this office, there are usually brochures for different airlines and destinations. If a customer picks up the Air Canada brochure, they will get the opportunity to read my story and it will show them how wonderful the experience was. Also, it could boost sales for Air Canada and it could convince people to face their fears head on if they are scared of flying. Once they face this fear they can insert the head on tactic into other parts of their lives, ultimately allowing them to take more risks in life.