

MY FIRST TRIP

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Our school had planned a trip for us to study English in another country during our holiday from school. We would be gone for three weeks. This would be the longest I had ever been away from my family. I was sure that I would miss them, but I was ready to have a big adventure.

I was so excited. It was my first time to travel out of my country. I was going to see so many new and exciting things on the trip.

I packed my camera, my MP3 player, my clothes and everything else I thought I would need into my backpack. I knew I was going to have so much fun.

We met at the park and boarded the bus to take us to the airport. I said goodbye to my parents and then took my seat. I looked out the window of the bus and dreamed about what we would do while on our trip.

We got to the airport and went to check in. I gave them my bag but kept my backpack. I didn't want anything to happen to my stuff.

We walked through the airport looking for the gate where our flight would be leaving. One of the older kids ran ahead to find our plane. The gate was G-24. We ran to the gate to wait for our airplane to arrive.

We watched the big white and blue plane come to the terminal, and then the long walkway reached out to the plane; like the arm of an octopus.

Soon the passengers got off the plane, and then the woman at the desk told us that our plane was ready to board. So, we got into line and gave our tickets to the man at the door.

I was going to sit with my best friend Lee Pyoung Hwa and his sister Lee Se Hwa. I wanted the window seat, but Se Hwa got there first. I let Pyoung Hwa sit next to his sister, so I was next to the aisle. I realized this was a good seat. I could see up and down the aisle, and I did not have to crawl over anyone to go to the restroom.

The flight attendant checked to see if our seatbelts were fastened, and to make sure our seats were in the up position.

I looked at all the books in the pocket of the seat in front of me. A paper there showed all the parts of the airplane and explained what to do in case of an emergency.

Soon the door closed, and then the plane began to move. I tried to see out the window, but Se Hwa's head was in the way.

The plane rolled for a long time. Then we came to a stop. We waited for what seemed like a

The plane jerked and we started to move faster and faster. Suddenly my stomach felt funny. We were starting to go up. My ears felt like I could not hear. My parents told me to swallow when this happened, so I did. It helped a lot.

After a while, we were told we could undo our seatbelts, so I did. I looked around the plane, and I saw many of my friends watching movies or talking. Some of them were already asleep.

I turned on my MP3 player and started to listen to the songs I had downloaded for the trip. I put my head back to get comfortable. I got tired and fell asleep.

Suddenly, I woke up. The plane began to shake up and down. People were screaming and the lights were going on and off.

“What’s happening?” I thought to myself.

I quickly buckled my seatbelt making sure that it was tight, and then I looked over at Pyoung Hwa and his sister. They were so scared they could not move.

I asked, “Pyoung Hwa, what’s happening?”

But he could not answer. He was too afraid.

Just then, the plane started to go down, faster and faster. Then the lights went out. I

took the mask that fell down in front me and put it on my face, just the way the flight attendant had shown us before we took off. I was so scared. What was going on?

The pilot announced over the intercom, “We’re going to crash land on a small island. Prepare yourselves for an emergency landing!”

The book in front of me told me to put my head between my knees, so I did.

We were falling from the sky, and I had no idea what was going to happen next.

CRASH, BOOM, BANG, CRUNCH.....

The plane came to a sudden stop, which threw me forward. I felt the seatbelt against my stomach. It really hurt.

It was completely dark inside except for the red lights along the aisle which showed us the way to the nearest exit. I undid my seatbelt. I felt for Pyoung Hwa. He was not moving. I reached over to Se Hwa. She was crying. I helped her with her seatbelt. Then I picked her up and put her in the aisle.

I told her to follow the red lights. I undid Pyoung Hwa’s seatbelt and shook him. He gasped for air, and then asked, “What happened?”

I said, “We crashed, follow me. We need to get off the airplane, NOW!”

We followed the red lights. It was getting smoky inside so I knew that we needed to hurry. Where there is smoke there is fire. We crawled along the floor until we found the exit. It was open. The flight attendant told us to jump. We jumped onto the slide and slid down the long white slide until we fell to the ground; first me, and then Pyoung Hwa. We were told to run as fast as we could into the woods. We did as we were told and ran as fast as we could. Just as we got to the forest there was a big explosion.

KABOOM! It was so strong I ended up on the ground.

We turned around and saw a big orange ball of flames reaching to the sky. My first thought was, “What about all my stuff?”

But then I remembered my friends. “Did they all get out OK?”

No one had an answer.

We sat in the sand along the edge of the forest and watched in amazement as the

fire burned and burned. The whole sky was lit up with the light from the fire.

Right then Se Hwa found us. She was crying and screaming. She was so afraid. Her brother held her in his arms to comfort her. She sobbed until she fell asleep.

We sat in silence.

“What was going to happen to us? Where were we? Who survived and who didn’t? Were we going to be on this island for a long time?”

Just then, I heard a friendly voice, “Please fasten your seatbelts. We will be arriving at the airport shortly. Thank you for flying with us.”

VOCABULARY (*Match the word to its definition*)

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. hurried _____ | a. get on |
| 2. terminal _____ | b. walking space between seats |
| 3. tickets _____ | c. scared sound, yell |
| 4. shake _____ | d. gate to board a plane |
| 5. flight attendant _____ | e. speaker, used for information |
| 6. scream _____ | f. airplane server, stewardess |
| 7. to board _____ | g. go quickly, rushed |
| 8. intercom _____ | h. documents for travel |
| 9. exit _____ | i. vibrate, agitate |
| 10. aisle _____ | j. way out |

TRUE OR FALSE

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Pyoung Hwa has a sister. | T / F |
| 2. I like to listen to my MP4. | T / F |
| 3. The plane crashed on an island. | T / F |
| 4. I smelled smoke. | T / F |
| 5. I died in the fire. | T / F |
| 6. The airplane exploded with a red ball of fire. | T / F |
| 7. We sat on the beach. | T / F |
| 8. I was with many friends. | T / F |
| 9. We were leaving our country. | T / F |
| 10. My mother was with me. | T / F |

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What did I listen to music with? _____
 - a) MP3
 - b) i-Pod
 - c) computer
 - d) radio

2. Where did everyone sit after the accident? _____
 - a) on the beach
 - b) in the forest
 - c) under the plane
 - d) at the airport

3. What color was the ball of flames? _____
 - a) black
 - b) white
 - c) orange
 - d) green

4. Where did I sit on the airplane? _____
 - a) next to the window
 - b) with the luggage
 - c) under the seat
 - d) along the aisle

COMPREHENSION: *(Write a complete sentence to answer the question.)*

1. What was the purpose for going on this trip?

2. Where did the plane crash?

3. Who did I help to get out of the airplane?

4. What was I listening to on the airplane?

5. Where did our group meet before leaving on the trip?

6. How many bags did I have with me?

7. What helped me to find my way out of the airplane?

8. Where was I sitting after I left the airplane?

9. What hurt my stomach when the plane crashed?

10. What did the explosion look like?
