

Tuesday – Avoiding Repetition

Tarit studied the inside of his arm carefully. With his index finger, he followed the jagged path of the silvery scar, which ran from his armpit to his elbow. Even the doctors had to admit it was a pretty impressive scar. Although the wound had healed long ago, Tarit could still remember the events which led up to the accident as if it were yesterday.

It had been exactly a year ago today that the accident had happened. Everyone had rushed out of school as soon as the bell had signalled the end of the day. It was a Friday, and most were in a hurry to get home. Tarit remembered strolling out of school with his best friend Avneet – they'd been discussing their plans for the weekend. They were so deep in conversation, they hadn't spotted Josef Frump (a nasty boy who enjoyed making people's lives a misery) approach them from behind. In the blink of an eye, Josef had snatched Tarit's bag from his back and sprinted away across the playing field.

It had been important that Tarit got his bag back; it contained his house key and mobile phone. A good friend of his, Tommy Thompson, had witnessed what had happened. He'd offered Tarit his bike to use, so he could catch up with Josef, who had made it as far as the gate which led out onto the road. After thanking Tommy, Tarit had jumped onto the bike so he could take off after the thief.

That's when things went horribly wrong. Tarit had become so focused on catching Josef, he had forgotten to look as he had sped out of the gate and onto the road. He hadn't seen the car that appeared from nowhere; he hadn't seen the look on the horrified driver's face as she failed to stop in time. He hadn't realised any of this, until he woke in hospital several days later.

1. List all of the personal, indefinite and relative pronouns that appear in paragraph two. If a pronoun appears several times, write it only once.

2. In paragraph three, does the relative pronoun 'which' refer to Tommy, Tarit, the bike or the gate?

3. An extra sentence has been written to add to paragraph four. Insert an appropriate relative pronoun from the options below to complete the sentence.

The bike, _____ belonged to Tommy, had been crushed under the wheels.

who

which

whom

whose

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Lara was hungry; she was always hungry. She never quite knew where her next meal was coming from. Sometimes, she ate perfectly good left over food that had been wastefully discarded. Often, passers-by would take pity on her, as she begged in front of shop windows in the busy city centre. Occasionally, she would visit the lovely people at the night shelter, who would ensure she ate a hot meal.

As usual, hunger had woken her up. She had slept beneath the old railway bridge, down by the canal. She yawned, stretched tall and tried to shake off the tiredness that still hung over her like a heavy weight. She'd slept worse than normal last night. Why was that?

Slowly, she began to recall being woken by a commotion further along the canal. She remembered hearing some voices shouting angrily at each other. Then footsteps, which had marched (unseeing) right past her. At the same time, something had been thrown into the water. Maybe it was valuable? Lara decided to find out.

Standing by the edge of the canal, she peered into the brown, murky water; it was impossible to see the bottom. Suddenly, her eye was drawn to a handle, which was sticking out of the water. Leaning forward as much as she dared, Lara was able to grab the handle and drag it towards her. It was a rather heavy blue bag. Apprehensively, Lara opened the zip. There, wrapped in a clear plastic bag, was more money than Lara had ever seen in her entire life.

4. An extra sentence has been written to add to paragraph three. Change the proper nouns to pronouns to avoid repetition.

Lara had thought about telling them to shut up, but Lara decided that Lara should remain unnoticed under Lara's cardboard boxes.

5. Rewrite the first sentence of paragraph two to include a relative clause.

6. Petra has written the first sentence of the next paragraph.

What was her going to do with all of this money, who had probably been hidden there by some very dangerous people.

Has she used relative and personal pronouns accurately? Explain your answer.