

## Visiting the City

How exciting! My whole family had the opportunity to stay in the city for three days. The first thing I noticed as I stepped off the train was that the city was very, very noisy. Cars were honking in long traffic jams, and people were happily talking. The city was very different compared to our home in the rural area, which was peaceful and silent.

Since the hotel we had booked wasn't far from the train station, we walked to it in a few minutes. We checked in and climbed up the tall staircase until we found our room, 216. Dad opened the door with the keys he had collected at the reception. As soon as we walked in, the light automatically turned on, showing a clean and tidy room with everything we needed. "Wow!" I shouted, "This is amazing!"

Once we put down our luggage, we went to explore a nearby park, called Hudson Park. It was famous because it was the biggest park in the city. Hudson Park was full of trees which provided shade to the people walking on the footpath. The grass was fresh, the flowers were beautiful and the birds cheerfully chirped in the trees. There was a clear pond in the centre of the park where you could look at your reflection in the water. However, I saw some groups of teenagers who wore strange clothes and swore a lot. They looked suspicious somehow.

It was night time, so we went back to the hotel and slept in our comfortable beds. But, in the middle of the night, I woke up from a terrifying nightmare. My heart was **beating** like crazy as I heard rustling noises and faint footsteps in the mysterious darkness. "Who could it be?" I thought.

Suddenly, the hotel's alarm went off. BEEP! BEEP! Everyone woke up, and while everyone was whispering, I asked my dad, "What's going on?" "Stay here and don't move, I go and check outside," my dad answered. After a while of waiting, my dad finally came back and told me that a group of teenagers had tried to break in and had run off because of the alarm. The good thing was that nothing had been stolen and everything was safe.

"Actually, these alarms are useful for our home too!" Dad thought. He asked the reception manager if he could give us some of their alarms and automatic lights, because we had a serious problem of possums which could be prevented by shining lights on them whenever they came close to our house. Dad also stated that the alarms could help because we didn't have such advanced technology to detect robbers and people who would break in. Luckily, the reception manager was kind and gave us some of their spare alarms and lights for free as a gift. "Thank you!" We were all happy and grateful.

When we had to leave the city, we felt sad, but I knew that our home in the rural area would be better with the new technology we had bought back, which could protect us from pests and

thieves. From this experience, I realised that the city was a great place to live in with all the wonderful technology, although there were more criminals and it was more dangerous.

Note:

This is a good narrative essay. You were able to describe the city in great detail as well as provided explanations to the three questions given in the prompt. However, you did not explore the themes of alienation and self discovery. To give you a short refresher, the topic alienation emphasizes a certain sort of social or sociological disease, one that involves a problematic isolation between self and other that should be together. It is the state of feeling disconnected from one's surroundings, job, or self, and it remains an imprecise notion with elusive implications. Meanwhile, the idea of discovery occurs after discovering that you are an alien here in some way. The act or process of developing knowledge or awareness of your talents, character, and feelings is characterized as this theme.

Mark: 43/50

Scholarly