

## **EXAMPLE SHORT FICTION STORY**

**Prompt:** Use your imagination to write a story that involves characters making a mistake or accidentally causing a problem. Show how the characters resolve the situation. Make sure that the story contains at least five paragraphs, all the elements of a story and at least three pieces of dialogue. Use the MLA style.

TITLE OF THE STORY: A Good Practice Ruined - Almost!

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English 102

6 January 2018

### A Good Practice Ruined – Almost!

On a beautiful spring day in Memphis, the Roosevelt Lions baseball team was practicing for the big game against Mt. Vernon High. Fortunately, the field was well groomed for the practice, and the air was filled with the sweet smells of spring. The grass was in perfect condition for the upcoming game. Watching the players, Coach Russo was hopeful. Josue, his best pitcher, was firing fastballs from the mound. Not surprisingly, Donnell, the team's star hitter, swung hard, knocking the ball into deep center field. While running the bases, Donnell smiled. Coach Russo yelled, "Good hit, Donnell!" The boys continued pitching and hitting throughout the practice, which lasted two hours without any mishaps.

After receiving a motivational speech from their coach, Josue and Donnell asked him if they could practice pitching and hitting by themselves. Reluctantly, the coach approved, and he warned, "Be sure to stay on the field. Don't bother the neighbors!" The boys agreed. While Josue practiced different pitches, Donnell tried to hit balls further and further to different parts of the field. First, Josue threw a change up. It dropped right over the plate. Donnell managed to get a piece of it, and it hit the fence in right field. Next, Josue tried a slider. Donnell was not surprised; he managed to hit even further into center field. Then Josue attempted to trick Donnell with a knuckle ball. Donnell swung a little late, but he felt

the bat connect solidly with the ball. Josue and Donnell watched the ball soar high into the sky and over the left field fence!

At first, the boys were pleased with Donnell's home run, but their elation soon turned into deflation. Continuing to watch the ball, Donnell yelled, "Oh, no!" with a panicked look on his face. The ball was flying toward a window in the house across the street. Josue pleaded, "Please don't hit that window!" After hearing the crash, Josue yelled, "Let's get out of here!" and started to run off the field. Donnell had mixed feelings. He wanted to leave, but he knew he would not feel good about leaving. Finally, Donnell shook his head and replied, "No, I've got to own up to this." "Okay, I'll go with you," replied Josue. Right away, the boys started trudging across the field toward the house. "Boy oh boy! What a way to end a great practice!" exclaimed Donnell.

Entering the front lawn of the house, the boys saw Mr. Delarosa, the owner of the house, coming out the door with a storm on his face. He immediately started screaming at the boys, "What is wrong with you? How did this happen?" He kept yelling and gesturing with his arms. Meanwhile, the boys tried to explain, but they could not get a word in edgewise. They gave up and stood in silence. Finally, when Mr. Delarosa stopped yelling, Donnell said, "It was an accident. It was my fault, and I will pay for it." Mr. Delarosa was shocked by Donnell's apology.

After taking a deep breath, Mr. Delarosa calmed down. He said, "Well, accidents do happen, but you boys need to stay on your practice field." Then Donnell explained that they were on the field, but he hit the ball out of the field. Mr. Delarosa was very surprised that Donnell could hit the ball that far. He said, "I want to see you play in a game! Don't worry about the window. I will submit a claim to my insurance company." Thus, in the end, Josue

and Donnell were relieved. They shook Mr. Delarosa's hand and thanked him. While walking away, Josue exclaimed, "Giving a nice apology can really pay off!", and he patted Donnell on the back.