**EXAMPLE THREE-PARAGRAPH FICTION STORY**

**Prompt:** Use your imagination to write a story involves characters in a life-threatening situation. Show how the characters resolve the situation. Make sure that the story contains at least three paragraphs, all the elements of a story, and at least three pieces of dialogue. Use the APA style.

TITLE OF THE STORY: Breaking the Rules!

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English 102

2 November 2018

Breaking the Rules!

“This is a perfect day to take my friends sailing!” thought Sasha. Indeed, the sun was warm, the lake was the same bright blue as the sky, and the wind was brisk. Small white caps were dancing on the peaks of the waves. Last week, Sasha had promised to take Bonita and Sheri for a sailing lesson, and they had been waiting for a windy day. Bonita and Sheri had never been sailing, and Sasha wanted to show them the wonders of the sport. “Come on,” she joyfully called to them, skipping out of the YCMA camp dining hall. “Today is a great windy day!”

Within a few minutes, Sasha showed her friends how to raise the sails, cast off from the dock, and steer the boat. Sasha was feeling pleased; her friends were learning quickly and enjoying the experience. Then the wind picked up, and the sun was covered with clouds. Sasha took the helm, and waves started splashing over the bow of the boat. Fortunately, the girls liked the excitement; they were squealing happily. “This is fun!” they exclaimed together. Suddenly, a big gust of wind came along, the boat rolled over onto its side, and the girls were in the water. Their faces looked surprised and then worried. “Don’t worry,” said Sasha. “The other sailing counselors will see us and come get us.” “Let’s swim for shore,” suggested Bonita, with blue lips and chattering teeth. “No,” reminded Sasha. “Rule Number One of boating is ‘Never ever EVER leave the boat!’”

Unfortunately, no one noticed them out in the middle of the lake, and the boat started to sink. “This boat is supposed to be sink proof!” lamented Sasha. Pretty soon, the boat was under water, and the girls could no longer hold onto it. It was more than three feet under the lake surface. “I guess we’ve got to swim now,” said Sasha, so the girls started to swim for the nearest beach. They were strong swimmers, but they did not rush. While swimming, they saw other sailors go to shore. They could hear the dinner bell ringing and see the campers going into the dining hall. “No one knows we’re out here!” exclaimed Bonita. “I’m glad we have our life jackets and each other.” When they got to the beach, they ran along the shore until they reached the camp. Instead of going to dinner wet, they ran to the cabin to change. While changing out of her wet clothes, Sasha exclaimed, “I guess sometimes you just have to break the rules!”