**EXAMPLE FOUR-PARAGAPH FICTION STORY**

**Prompt:** Use your imagination to write a story 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 four paragraphs, all the elements of a story, and at least three pieces of dialogue. Use the APA style.

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

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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 leading 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.

After receiving a motivational speech from the coach, Josue and Donnell asked if they could practice pitching and hitting by themselves. The coach agreed but he warned them, “Stay on the field! Don’t bother the neighbors!” The boys promised that they would be careful. Josue practiced different pitches; Donnell tried to hit balls 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 sailed into right field. Next, Josue tried a slider. Donnell was not surprised; he managed to hit it into left 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 into the sky and out of the field.

At first, the boys were pleased with the 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!” Donnell shook his head and replied, “No, I’ve got to own up to this.” “Okay, I’ll go with you,” said Josue. The boys started trudging across the field toward the house.

Entering the front lawn of the house, they saw Mr. Delarosa, the owner of the house, coming out the door with a storm on his face. He screamed at the boys, “What is wrong with you? How did this happen?” He kept yelling and yelling. Finally, Donnell said, “It was an accident. It was my fault, and I will pay for it.” Mr. Delarosa was shocked by Donnell’s apology. He calmed down, and 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.