

# Reputation Salvaged

by Lee Sung Jae, Primary 4  
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WRITERS AT WORK Model Composition Showcase : Primary 4

The moment Xavier and his mother entered the supermarket, crisp greens and fruity scent of fresh fruits assailed their nostrils. Colourful array of goods were displayed on the shelves which were lined neatly on both sides of the aisles. Melodious music serenaded the shoppers as they browsed through the items on display. Cashiers were ringing up brisk sales as shoppers lined up patiently at the cashiers to make payments for their purchases. Their arms were laden with baskets filled to the brim with groceries.

Mother left Xavier to look after the trolley while she headed to the frozen food section. After a while, Xavier became bored. Just then, he had a brainwave. Once the idea took root, he could not shake it loose. Mischief glinted in his eyes. The next minute, Xavier was riding on the trolley and it sped down the aisle like a Formula One racing car. "I am Lewis Hamilton," he thought smugly to himself.

Action tag

5 senses - Smell

5 senses - Sight

5 senses - Hearing

Action tag

5 senses - Hearing

Action tag

5 senses - Sight

Action tag

Action tag

Show not Tell

Show not Tell

Action tag

Character thought



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Loud chortles rang in the air as Xavier was having a whale of a time. He was so engrossed that he failed to see a puddle of water right in front of him. He stepped on the puddle and the floor slipped beneath him. His dark orbs widened and darkened as he lost control of the trolley. Trepidation consumed Xavier as everything played out as if in slow motion as the scene unfolded before his eyes. He resembled a bowling ball cannoning into the pins. CRASH!

Mother and the manager came running at breakneck speed upon hearing the commotion. Their jaws dropped at the scene in front of them. They were rendered speechless for a split second. Horror marred Mother's fine porcelain features. A red flush crept slowly up the manager's face. Upon seeing the damage, he blew his top, "What did you do?"

5 senses - Hearing  
Idiom

5 senses - Sight

5 senses - Touch

Show not Tell

Impressive phrase

Show not Tell

Simile

Idiom, Show not Tell

Show not Tell

Impressive Phrase

Show not Tell

Speech



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By this time, a crowd had gathered to witness their moment of shame. Their heads were shaking at the lack of discipline that Xavier had shown. He knew he had to face the music and he had no excuse for the trouble he had gotten into. Guilt ate at Xavier that Mother had to suffer such embarrassment due to his reckless act. Poor Mother had to bear the bulk of the consequences of his actions. Xavier lowered his head meekly and nodded apologetically as the manager's tirade went on at full steam. "I'm... I'm so... sorry," muttered Xavier under his breath.

Just then, Xavier spied a surreptitious figure. The man reached for a tin stealthily and he shoved it into his pocket. Immediately, alarm bells rang in Xavier's mind. The man was a shoplifter! Everyone was oblivious to what was happening. It seemed like Xavier was the only one who had witnessed the crime. "Mum... there..." Xavier tried to gain Mother's attention. However, before he could get another word out of his mouth, she sent him a searing gaze to keep quiet. Xavier was in a dilemma. Frustration built in him as he watched the shoplifter slowly make his way towards the exits.

5 senses - Sight  
Show not Tell

Idiom  
Character feelings

Character feelings  
Show not Tell  
Show not Tell  
Speech  
Way of saying

5 senses - Sight  
Show not Tell  
Show not Tell  
Character thoughts

5 senses - Sight  
Action tag

Show not Tell  
Character's feelings



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"Hey, stop!" Xavier pointed a definitive finger at the shoplifter and everyone looked in that direction. The shoplifter was like a deer caught in the headlights. He froze for a moment before bolting towards the exits. He tried to make his getaway now that his identity had been revealed. At that critical juncture, Xavier knew he had to do something. He wheeled the trolley forward and rammed straight at the shoplifter. The impact threw the shoplifter off balance and he landed heavily on the ground like a sack of potatoes. Xavier had successfully blocked the shoplifter's escape route.

The manager sprinted into action. He caught the man by the back of his collar and pinned him to the ground. After that, he thanked Xavier sheepishly for foiling the shop- lifter's plan. He commended Xavier on his quick actions and thinking. He pardoned Xavier for his earlier misdemeanor and let him off with just a warning. Mother was relieved that all was finally settled. She had enough drama for a day and decided to cut the shopping trip short and also decided to eat out instead of cooking dinner. Xavier was proud that he had salvaged their reputation. He could hold his head high once more.



Sung Jae shows a great flow of his story, including dialogues that expresses the MC's feelings and tone.

Speech

Simile

Show not Tell

Impressive Phrase

Action tag

Simile

Action tag

Way of saying

Action tag

Character's feeling

Character's feeling

