

単語数 : 4,304 語

DEC#2 PLACTICE ON THE COURT

CASE IS CAME

After a month from Caro became a member of Detective club, Jane came into our office, science room. She is fifth client in this year.

“What happened?” Dave asked her.

“Help me! Please!” Jane is upset.

“I said ‘what happened?’ I can’t understand if you don’t say any word.”

“Jane, calm down.” Caro said.

“Do you want to drink a tea?” I, Eric gave Jane a cup of lemon tea. This tea is Robert’s, Caro’s father, Science teacher.

“Thanks...” Jane drank a tea. She seemed becoming calm down.

“OK. That time, I’ll ask you a question.” I said, “What happened?”

Jane opened her mouth, “I lose my tennis racket. I think it robbed.”

“Why you think so?” Dave asked, “Give me the facts, please.”

“Year. I found my racket was gone when I was going to the club.”

“So, when you saw yours at last?”

“...I know it was there when I finished the club in morning. My partner, Lorena, put it there.”

“Where is ‘where,’ you said?”

“In the cage of rackets in the warehouse on the play ground.”

“Who has a key?” I asked.

“At evening club, our club teacher, Mr. Jake has a key. But other time, all teacher can borrow and use it.” Jane answered.

“That is nice question, Eric.” Dave said, “So, who can borrow a key without teachers?”

“No one. We can go into the warehouse with teacher...”

“Oh, with teacher. Hmm...” Dave closed his eyes. He’s thinking something, he seem.

“What’re you doing? Caro.” Caro wrote something in her note when I turned my face to her.

“I wrote what Jane said and what we asked. I promise those will help us.”

“I want my racket as soon as I can.” Jane said at last, “Because my partner, Lorena can’t practice together. I want she become good at tennis. She is my best friend...”

“OK.” I said, “We’ll solve this case and find your racket.”

“Yes, we will.” Caro said.

“Thank you!” Jane opened our office’s door and went away.
“So, what do we do first? Getting more facts? Searching racket?” I asked to Dave.
“...”
There’s no answer.
“Dave?” I turned my face to Dave.
He still closed his eyes.
He still thought something...

THE KEY ON BOARD

“Can I go into the room, teacher?” Dave asked through the opened door.
We, I, Dave and Caro are in front of teacher’s room.
“Who?” The teacher who is near the door asked and saw us and said. ”OK. Come in.”
“Thank you.” We went into the room.
“Why you came there?” Teacher asked us.
“Because I hear ‘come in.’ of yours.” Dave joked, “Please forget that. So, where is warehouse’s key? We want to find that.”
“Key? All keys are there.” Teacher showed us board which on wall. Board is far from the room’s door.
We went to the front of board and Dave asked teacher near the board, Ms. Flony.
“Ms. Flony, can I borrow the warehouse’s key?”
“No, you can’t.” Ms. Flony said, ”Only teachers can borrow these keys.”
“Thanks.” Dave said and left. Caro and I followed him.
When we left the room, Ms. Flony asked, ”You can go into the warehouse with me. If you want... Did you put something important in there?”
“That’s Okay!” Dave said, ”We want to know who can borrow a key!”
And we left the room.
“Second, we should ask Mr. Jake.” Dave said after we left the teacher’s room.
“But where he is?” I asked, “He isn’t in teacher’s room.”
“Eric,” Caro said with coldly eyes, “It is club time.”
That means Mr. Jake is at tennis court with him student, a member of tennis club.
“Let’s go to playground.” Dave said.
Playground is by the tennis court and warehouse is on the playground.

We found Mr. Jake.
“Oh, Dave, Eric and...” “Caro.”
Mr. Jake said us name and Caro said herself. He can’t remember her name

clearly because Caro just came this school before a month.

“So,” Mr. Jake said, “Eric, Dave and Caro. What happened on you?”

“Nothing happened.” Dave said, “Just I want to came.”

“Wha...” I wanted to say “What”, but Caro put her hand on my mouth and I couldn’t speak.

“I just want to see their practice.” Dave said.

“Did you come here about case of someone?” Mr. Jake asked.

“No, I didn’t. So, why Jane is running around the playground?”

Because she doesn’t have her tennis racket, of course, I thought. But I couldn’t speak any word.

“...She is running because she forget her racket in her house. She forgot to bring it to school today.” Mr. Jake said.

“So, Was Jane running around at morning club, too?” Dave asked.

“I don’t know.” Mr. Jake said, “She and other students practice themselves.”

“You always aren’t at morning club, Mr. Jake. I see...”

“Where they put their racket while class? I didn’t see their racket in classroom.” This time Caro asked.

In the warehouse, of course. I thought, but I couldn’t speak this time, too. I thought I hadn’t to say that.

“Fleeze fake aff hure hund!” I said. Caro take her hand from my mouth. “Did you understand?” She asked and I answered, “Yes.”

“What were you doing?” Mr. Jake asked us.

“Nothing!!” Caro and I answered.

“Ah...OK. My students keep their racket in the warehouse. Caro, that is answer to your question.” Mr. Jake said, “Did you understand?”

“Yes, thank you.”

“So, who is opened the lock of warehouse?” I asked, “You said you always isn’t in morning club.”

“That’s easy question.” Mr. Jake answered, “My students call the teacher in teacher’s room when they need to go into the warehouse. Teacher who called by them borrow the key and open the lock. And they can go into the room.”

“I see.” I said.

We said thank you to Mr. Jake and left the playground. We came into the teacher’s room again.

“Oh, what happened on you? Something forgotten?” Ms. Flony said with smile.

“Year.” Dave said, “I’ll ask you one more question.”

I looked around. There is only Ms. Flony. May be other teachers are in club.

“Who opened warehouse’s lock in this morning? Do you know, Ms. Flony?”

“Yes, I know.”

“Who did?”

“Me. I opened warehouse’s lock in this morning.” Ms. Flony answered.

WHO WENT OUT AT LAST?

“Hmm, wait...So...Lorena, Mana, Josh and Will. They brought all tennis rackets and balls and put those in. First, Josh came out. Second, Lorena, third was will and Mana was last, I think.” Ms. Flony told us.

“Thank Ms. Flony. You helped us.”

“I’m glad to I helped you, and can I help you something else?”

“Nothing. Thank you!!” We said to Ms. Flony good-bye and went out the teacher’s room.

“So, Mana could rob Jane’s racket.” I said because she came out from warehouse at last.

“Wait!”

We heard a voice of someone called us when we just went out to playground.

“What do you want to us...?” I said and turned my face.

There is Robert, Caro’s father.

“What are you doing now? I should know that when you do in club.” Robert asked.

“We have a case.” Dave answered and told him everything about case.

“Oh, that not fanny...But I think Lorena and Josh could steal racket, too.” Robert said, ”Josh, Mana and Lorena could.”

“Why? Do you know any mere facts?” Dave asked.

“Yes.” Robert answered, “I opened the warehouse’s lock in this noon.”

“What?!” We all cried.

“Opened the lock?” I cried.

“By warehouse’s key?” Dave said.

“At noon?” Caro cried.

“Year. This noon, Josh came to the teacher’s room and asked me open the lock. He said he forgot a thing in the warehouse and remembered that. I took the warehouse’s key and opened the door.”

“Robert, did you go into the warehouse?” Dave asked.

“No. I waited out of warehouse.”

“Oh, you said that!” I cried.

“OK. Josh can. I understand it.” Dave said, ”But what about Lorena?”

“Year, dad. Why you thought Lorena could?”

“Because I heard about Lorena from Mr. Vector. Probably, he is in the gym.” Said Robert.

I knew Mr. Vector is club teacher of basketball club.

There are a lot of balls, players and sounds of ball bounded in the school gym. We could find Mr. Vector soon. We call him.

“Mr. Vector. I have a question which must ask you!!”

“WHAT?! I CAN’T HEAR CLEARLY!”

Sounds of ball bounded are covered on our voice and Mr. Vector couldn’t hear so clearly.

“We can’t talk in these sounds.” Dave whispered.

“I’ll call Mr. Vector to go out the gym. You wait outside.” I said and walked to Mr. Vector.

A minute pasted.

We are at outside the gym.

“So, what’s matter on you?” Mr. Vector said.

“Ah...I have a thing which we must ask you, teacher.” Dave said.

“Ask me? That’s all right. What’ thing?”

“We’ll search about warehouse’s lock. We’re asking teachers they went out of warehouse or waited out when they opened the lock for students” Dave explained.

That explaining is Robert’s idea. We should ask to Mr. Vector not other teacher’s. But when we say, “we’re asking all teacher”, Mr. Vector probably tell us without asking reason. We ask him a thing without reason, about stolen racket.

And Robert’s plan was worked!!

“Warehouse? I don’t know why you asked me, but...” Mr. Vector said.

We know Jane didn’t want teachers know her racket is robbed when we know she said, “forgot in my house” to Mr. Jake. We decided say lie.

Mr. Vector continued, “But other teacher told you that...Hmm...OK.” He started tell us his story, ”I just opened the lock this noon...”

“That’s lucky!!” Cried Dave, “You just do that!”

Of course we knew Mr. Vector opened it in this noon. That is Dave’s plan.

Dave acted that is chance.

“So, tell me more. Who asked you open the lock?” Of course Lorena asked. Caro acted, too.

“Year, I want to know!” I followed them.

“More information? OK.” Mr. Vector said, “I opened the lock because Lorena asked me. I opened the lock and Lorena went into the warehouse. I waited outside.”

“So, what time when you opened?” Dave asked.

“Time? Hmm...that was...about 12:30” Mr. Vector answered, “If my memory is right.”

The time when Josh went into the warehouse was 12:45, said Robert in his story.

“She went out about...ten minute after, I think.” Mr. Vector said.

We said him thank you for his information and went back to the playground.

We saw Jane still running on the playground.

DAVE GOT THE POINTS AND I LOST THE GAME

We walked to tennis court. Mr. Jake is gone. We ask that one of the student in tennis club.

“Where is Mr. Jake?”

“Oh, teacher is in the teacher’s room now. He said he’ll come back in an hour.”

“When he’s gone?”

“About...5 minute ago.”

“Thanks.” Dave said.

So, we have 25 minute for asking question.

We searched Josh and Mana. Soon, we found them.

“Josh, Mana. Can I ask you?”

“I’m practicing with my partner. Wait me finishing club, please.” Josh said.

Mana said like that, too.

“Oh...” Dave gasped.

“Dave, I have an idea.” I said, “Can I do that?”

“You have an idea, Eric?” Dave said and looked at me, “...OK. You can.”

“Thanks, Dave. So...” I said and turned my face to Caro, “Can you help me?”

“Me?” Caro asked me back and answered, “...OK. What plan?”

I smiled.

After 5 minutes, Caro and I playing tennis together. We played tennis in doubles game with Josh’s partner and Mana’s.

My idea is that.

Josh said wait us because he had a partner. He can talk when his partner want practice without him, I thought and I ask him let’s play the game. And it worked.

I thought Caro is good at sport, too. She got a ball when I lost a ball.

That was a so nice game. But at last, we lost a game. We got 40 points.

“Nice game, you two!” Dave almost finished asking. He clapped.

“But I lost.”

“That’s OK. I get some important points of case because you lost a game.”

“That is not OK.” I said, “I wanted to win.”

“You’re so strong.” Rucus, partner of Josh, said.

“No, I lost.”

“Don’t say that. What can I say if you say that? I’m a member of tennis club, but you aren’t.” Rucus cried.

“Yes.” Dian, partner of Mana, said, “If we were lost, what can I do?”

“Hmm...” I thought, “That’s right.” And said with smile.

“Eric, Caro!” Dave called us, “Mr. Jake is coming here in few seconds, and I saw him. Let’s leave here!”

“OK.”

“Year.”

And we came back here, science room. It is 17:30 now.

“Do you want tea?” Robert asked us and we drunk a cup of lemon tea.

“I think.” Dave said, “We’ll talk to Lorena at after finished club. What do you think?”

“I think that’s nice.” Caro said. I think so, too.

SOLVED?

Dave told us what Josh and Mana said when we wait at side of gate.

From Dave’s story, Josh forgot tennis ball on the court and he found that this noon. He wasn’t forgot thing in the warehouse, he forgot thing outside. He said to Robert about a ball and asked him to open the lock. He went into with a ball. Josh and Mana said same thing about after club in morning. Josh, Mana, Will and Lorena went into the warehouse for their rackets. First, Josh came out and then Lorena. Will and Mana came after Lorena. Josh said Lorena, Will and Mana had nothing. He promised it to us. They didn’t have anything; of course they didn’t have any racket.

“So, you told us about Jane’s stolen racket?” I asked Dave.

“No. Probably he heard from Jane.” Dave said and continued his story.

Josh and Mana said they went to the locker room and changing their clothes after morning club. And they went to the classroom, they said.

Dave finished his story. Caro was writing thing what Dave said on her note when I saw.

“She is come.” Dave said, “And Jane, too.”

I saw Lorena and Jane talked together and laughed. They came to close to us.

“Hello. Jane, Lorena.” Dave said.

Jane and Lorena seemed surprised.

“Oh, hello, Dave. ...And Eric, Caro. Hello.” Jane asked us, “How about my racket?”

“Sorry, we still don’t know where it is. We need more information.” Dave said.

“OK...I’ll tell you.”

“Thank you.” Caro said.

“No. I must say you thank you.” Jane said, “...When I went into the warehouse after the class, I found my racket were gone.”

“Year. I heard that.” Dave said, “Did you search in the warehouse? I forgot ask you that question before.”

“Of course, yes. I searched everywhere in the ware house.”

“Where did you saw?” Care asked.

Jane answered, “First, I saw in the cage of rackets. And then, I saw in the cage of tennis balls and soccer balls, behind the cages. And I saw behind the rack. There was nothing.”

“Behind the rack!?” Suddenly, Lorena shouted.

She noticed we all saw her and spook fast, “Er...I...surprised she, Jane...thought her...r...racket behind the ...rack.”

“Yes.” Jane said, “I didn’t know why I thought mine is there. But I check there.”

“But... you said there is nothing...” Lorena whispered. She seemed afraid of something.

“Yes. There wasn’t my racket.” Jane said and Lorena turned her face to ground.

“Is the rack short?” Dave asked to Jane.

“Tall.” Lorena answered. She still saw the ground. “But there are only few measures and stopwatches.” She said, “You can go away rack easy.”

“OK. Thank you. You can go home, Jane and Lorena.” Dave said and he turned him face to Lorena.

She didn’t see the ground that time.

Dave said, “We’ll stay here for get more information.”

“Thanks.” Jane said, “I wonder when you find my racket...”

And Jane and Lorena went away.

I asked to Dave after I couldn’t see Jane and Lorena, “What do we do next?”

“Wait. Just it.”

“Who?”

“Lorena, of course.” Dave said, “She is person who hide a racket. And Jane’s racket was behind the rack.”

“Oh, I see.” Caro said.

“Lorena!! What happened?” Suddenly Dave shouted.

Lorena came back.

“I forgot a thing in the school.” Lorena said in fast voice.

“I believed you came back.” Dave said, “Can I speak what I thought of this case, first?”

“Yes.” Lorena said.

“Thanks. ...When I heard about this case from Jane first, She said only the teachers can open the key. I thought the robber didn’t take out Jane’s racket. Robber hide the racket because teacher was there and wait.”

“Year, that’s right.” I agreed Dave’s story, “I don’t want take out if teacher see me. I think teacher find it.”

“Yes, I can’t, too.” Dave said, “Second, I thought I must know who came out at last because robber can do something so easy if robber is in the warehouse alone. Robber don’t want other one’s eyes. So, we ask some people, ‘Who came

at last?" and I knew Mana is last. But..."

"Josh and you, Lorena, went into at noon, alone." Caro continued, "And I think robber is you. You hide Jane's racket behind the rack. You surprised when you know Jane looked the rack because you hide there!"

"Yes." Dave said, "But, Caro, don't say 'I think', you must say 'we think'."

Lorena closed her eyes and said, "You were right. I did that."

WHERE IS RACKET?

"B...But," I said, "If it is true what you said, where is Jane's racket?"

"Yes. I surprised when Jane said there was nothing, too." Lorena said, "I came back because I want to ask you."

"I know." Dave said, "You want that we find the Jane's racket and she gets it."

"Yes, you're right." Lorena said.

"But Lorena." Caro said, "Why you hide her racket? Why you want I back to her?"

"I was tired..." Lorena said, "I was tired about practice with Jane. That is hard work because Jane want I become a good player, well at tennis. Jane is a best friend. But she is two or three times stronger than I. I was tired of that and I couldn't say that because I know why Jane did these things. She thought for me."

Lorena took a breath and then, continued, "I thought a bad thing, I know. But I didn't want to practice with her. I wanted get rest. First, I thought I hide my racket myself, but I didn't want to run around playground."

"And you hide Jane's" Dave said.

"I know that was worse than before." Lorena said, "In my plan, Jane's racket will be found tomorrow by me." She turned to me, "I didn't want Jane can't practice so long. I want to rest only one day. Now, I want her racket back."

"OK. I see what you think." Dave said with smile, "We'll find. I promise."

"And I'll practice with you after club finished." I said, "You thought bad thing because you didn't strong. I know you and Jane are good friend."

"Thank you. I don't do thing like that again!" Lorena began to cry.

"You're too kindness to other people..." Caro whispered. I said to Caro, "Year, that is us. We're too kindness to other. But, what's wrong us?"

LUCK BEHIND THE RACK

We called Robert and asked him to open the lock.

"Of course. That's OK." Robert took the key from board and opened the lock.

"But please do thing quick. The club time is almost finished." He said and we,

Dave, Caro, Robert, Lorena and I, went into the warehouse.

It was dark.

Dave pushed a button and light showed us everything in the warehouse.

There are some cages, rack and a lot of other thing. The wall has two windows.

"You hided Jane's behind it, right?" Dave said and he pointed the rack.

Rack is about 150 meters tall, I think.

"Yes, you're right." Lorena said and looked at Robert.

"I can't hear anything." Robert and smiled.

"So, help me, Eric. We'll move that rack." Dave said.

"OK." I said and put my hand on the rack.

"Why don't you helped them, dad?" Caro asked to her father.

"I can't hear anything word, I said." Robert said.

Dave and I push and pull the rack. The rack is moving and we put our face into behind the rack.

"Oh!!"

"Why!?"

Dave and I shouted. There is...

There is...racket. Probably, that is Jane's.

"There is that!!" I shouted.

"You know, Lorena hide a racket in there." Dave started his story.

"Of course" I said.

"But when Jane looked in there, there wasn't racket." Dave said.

"Oh, that's interesting." Robert said.

"Why you said that, dad? You said you can't anything short time ago..." Caro said in low voice. She probably be angry with Robert don't help us moving the rack.

"..." Robert closed his mouth and said nothing.

"So, what happened then? Tell me what you think, Caro." Dave said to Caro.

"I think." Caro said, "Another person took the racket from behind rack after Lorena put there."

"I think you're right. Probably, he put a racket outside warehouse through these windows."

"Windows?" I asked Dave and walked to the windows. Windows are unlocked.

"Dave! Windows are unlocked!" I shouted.

"Thanks." Dave said, "That means he could do."

"He? You know who is another person?" Caro cried.

"Yes, I know." Dave said, "And he probably be outside the windows. Eric, CATCH HIM!!!"

I opened the window and looked outside through the window.

There is someone.

He ran.

I'm going to go out through the window and run behind him.

“Wait!!” I’m shouting and catching his arm.
He’s falling down on the ground and I’m riding in him.
Now, I caught him.
“Who are you?” I asked and saw his face. He is...
“You caught Josh! Eric, Nice work!” I heard Dave Dave’s voice.
He came with Caro, Robert and Lorena.
“Why...why you did that?” Lorena cried.
“I didn’t do that work.” Josh said, “I’m innocent.”
“You still say that!” I shouted, “Why you’re here if you’re innocent?”
Dave put his arm on my shoulder.
“Stop shouting to him. And let him free, Eric.” Dave said.
I took off my hand from Josh like Dave said.
“Now, I’ll tell you truth.” Dave said and started.
“When Lorena went into the warehouse at...”
“12:30.” Caro told to Dave.
“Yes. At 12:30, Josh saw Lorena went into the warehouse.”
“I didn’t saw her.” Josh said.
“Please be quiet while I’m taking.” Dave continued, “Josh thought why Lorena did and he decided to go into the warehouse and search what she did. He searched everywhere in the warehouse and he found Jane’s racket. He thought Lorena hide it because she don’t like Jane. He probably know Lorena did hard practice by Jane. He took Jane’s racket and put it out through the window. That is must after 12:45, when Robert opened the lock. At evening, Jane found her racket was gone and call us to help her.”
Dave finished his story and asked, “Josh, am I right?”
“You’re wrong.” Said Josh, “Why I took out the racket? There’s no reason.”
He’s right, I think, but Dave is different.
“Did you say I could say reason?” Dave said with big, big smile, “I think that is certainly right reason.”
“I don’t have any reason.” Josh said, “Because I didn’t do that.”
“Dave, tell me the reason what you think.” Caro asked.
“OK. Josh is...” I didn’t hear Dave’s word because he whispered to only Caro.
“Wow.” Caro said and she made a big smile on her face.

CASE IS GOING AWAY

“I’ll say Lorena why you did these if you say nothing, Josh.” Dave said with a big smile. He laughed in small voice, “What did you do?”
“...” Josh said nothing. He didn’t agree and disagree.
“Dave, please tell us. I wanted to know.” I said.
“OK. Eric.” Dave still smiled, “He l...”

“Don’t say more word!!” Josh suddenly shouted and spook fast, “Yes, I did these. And I was here because I hid a racket behind the rack again! I knew Lorena want back Jane’s racket when I heard your talking. That is reason!!”

“I’m glad to hear that” Dave said, “Before I say your secret.”

“Hmm...so, what do we do now?” I said, “We found robbers and Jane’s tennis racket.”

I want to know what Dave say, but I don’t said about that.

“Year. I thought that, too.” Dave said, “What did Jane say when she asked us, Caro?”

“Hmm...wait...” Caro opened her note and looked for the word.

“Yes! I found!” Caro read her note, “I want my racket as soon as I can.’ Jane said.”

Caro closed her note.

“So, we’ll take a racket to her.” Dave said, “As soon as we can.”

“OK. Let’s go now.” I said, “But...what about them?” I mean Josh and Lorena.

“They? I don’t know.” Dave answered, “Jane want only her racket, not robber.” And he took a racket, walked away.

I turned to my face to Josh and Lorena, “Dave said like that. So, we’ll follow him and we don’t work to you any thing. You’re free.” And Caro and I left them. Robert almost went away.

When we came to Dave, Caro turned to Josh and said in loud voice, “Josh! If you want, you’ll practice with Lorena after club! Lorena want to be well!”

“Why you said that?” I asked.

“That’s secret!” Caro said and smiled.

Dave laughed, “Ha-ha! Year, that’s secret.”

“Why you smiled and laughed?” I asked.

...CASE WENT AWAY WITH A BIG SECRET...