VOKLA

ADULT READERS

The Interview at 9:15



ENGLISH STORYBOOK / B1

VOKLA Press · Free student edition

Ready at last



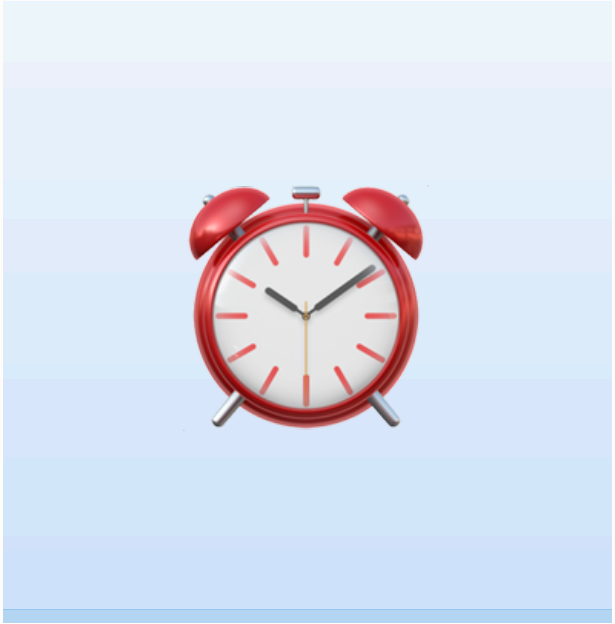
Deniz had prepared for weeks. Her interview at Mavi Design was at 9:15, and she had practised her answers in front of the mirror every evening. She left home at eight, much earlier than necessary, with her portfolio in a black folder. On the metro she went over her notes one more time. “If they ask about teamwork, I’ll talk about the museum project,” she whispered to herself. Then, between two stations, the train suddenly stopped.

Stuck



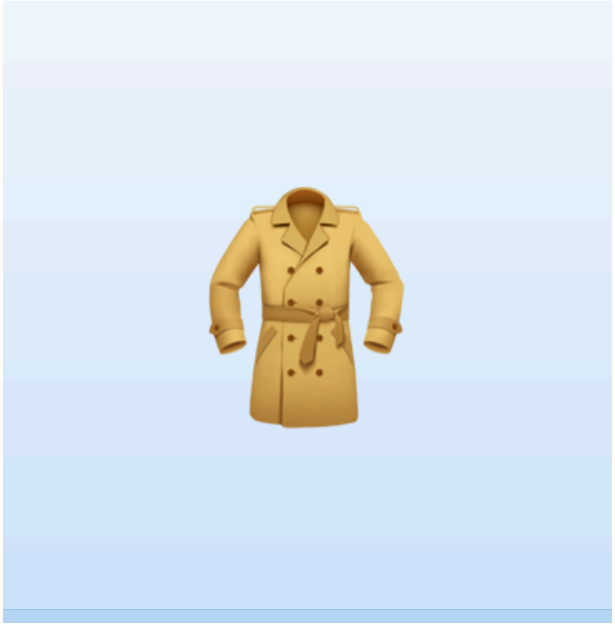
At first nobody worried. After ten minutes, the lights went out and people started checking their phones. An elderly woman next to Deniz was breathing quickly and holding her bag very tightly. “My daughter is waiting for me at the hospital,” she said. “She’ll think something has happened.” Deniz forgot about her notes. She helped the woman sit down, gave her some water and called the daughter on her own phone. A man in a grey coat watched them quietly.

Twenty-five minutes late



When the train finally moved, it was 9:20. Deniz walked the woman to the hospital entrance, then ran all the way to Mavi Design. She arrived at 9:40, out of breath, with her hair everywhere. “I’m so sorry,” she told the receptionist. “I know I’ve probably lost my chance.” The receptionist gave her a strange smile. “Don’t worry. Mr Aras is late too. He was stuck on the metro.” Deniz sat down and tried to breathe slowly.

The last question



The interview went better than she had expected. Then Mr Aras asked his last question: “Tell me about a time when you solved a problem under pressure.” Deniz hesitated. Should she talk about the museum project? Instead, she told him about the train, the woman and the phone call. Mr Aras looked at the grey coat on his chair and smiled. “I know,” he said. “I was sitting opposite you. That was exactly the answer I was hoping for.”

AFTER THE STORY

Back to the story

1 **Why do you think Deniz decided not to talk about the museum project?**

2 **How did Mr Aras already know her answer before she gave it?**

YOUR TURN

Think of a time when you solved a problem under pressure. Tell the story in four or five sentences.

THREE WORDS FROM THE STORY

portfolio • a collection of examples of your work

out of breath • breathing fast after running

under pressure • in a difficult situation with little time