

Klair squealed, ~~and jumped up and down excitedly~~: “Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!”

Grandpa chuckled again, “Just remember ~~that~~ you have to help ~~out~~, do as I say, and ~~no complaining~~ ~~not complain~~.”

“I will ~~—~~ ~~De~~on’t worry, Grandpa. I will be really, really good!” ~~Klair said with a big smile.~~

~~Grandpa smiled back and said,~~ “Good. Now what do you say about getting us some dinner? I’m hungry!” With that, they headed into the house to wash up.

The next morning Klair woke up before the alarm clock ~~beeped~~ ~~went off~~. She quickly got dressed in her jeans and T-shirt and put her tennis shoes on. She was excited, thinking about the day when she would have her own boots to wear at the ranch instead of her plain, old tennis shoes. She pulled her hair ~~up~~ into a ponytail, put on her baseball cap ~~sticking the ponytail through the hole—~~ ~~(sticking her ponytail through the hole in the back)~~ and headed into the kitchen where Grandma was already up and making oatmeal. “Good morning, Klair, ~~—~~ ~~Are~~ you ready for some breakfast?” Grandma asked.

“I think so,” Klair said ~~unsure~~, “but what time is it? Because I can’t be late!”

Grandma smiled, “You have enough time to eat breakfast.” She handed Klair a bowl of steaming, hot oatmeal. “The brown sugar and milk are already out on the table, and the toast will be out in a few minutes.”

Klair ~~sat down~~ ~~went to the table~~ and practically inhaled her oatmeal; she didn’t even wait for her toast before she ran to the lanai and sat down in Grandpa’s chair to wait. At 5:30 sharp, Grandpa came out to put his boots on.

“I see you made it on time, ~~—~~ ~~Are~~ you ready to get to work?” ~~he~~ ~~Grandpa~~ ~~asked~~ ~~said~~ ~~while~~ ~~as~~ ~~he~~ ~~was~~ pulling on his boots.

“I sure am, Grandpa! I even ate breakfast,” Klair said matter of factly.

Grandpa laughed, “Alright then, hop in the truck and put on your seat belt.”

Commented [A8]: Squealing and jumping up and down indicates excitement, so you don’t need to say he jumped up and down excitedly...avoid too many adverbs when you can show instead of tell. So just say jumped up and down.

In my second read through, I think it is better to just leave it as Klair squealed. That is enough of a description to understand the emotions.

Commented [A9]: For parallel structure, this should say not complain rather than no complaining. You have to not complain. Not you have to no complaining.

Commented [A10]: Unnecessary dialogue tag. You don’t want to overdo it.

Commented [A11]: It is already clear he is smiling with the exchange from previous references.

Commented [A12]: You want to end sentences with strong words. Not went off. So I changed went off to a strong verb: beeped. You could also say she woke up before the buzz/beep/blare/noise of the alarm clock. Went off is just weaker.

Commented [A13]: Use the en dash here.

Commented [A14]: Her words already suggest she is unsure. Show don’t tell here.

Klair hopped up and skipped to the truck listening to the *clink, clink, clink* of Grandpa's spurs as he followed her.

Grandpa answered all of Klair's never-ending questions ~~-throughout the hour long drive, as they drove for an hour in the truck.~~ Finally, they ~~turned onto~~ ~~were pulling onto~~ the red dirt road that ~~led lead-up~~ to the tack shed and stables. ~~Pulling in alongside the horse trailers,~~ Grandpa ~~pulled the truck by the horse trailers and~~ parked. Klair quickly unbuckled her seatbelt, ~~and~~ jumped out of the truck, ~~and followed to follow~~ Grandpa over to the tack shed.

"What are we gonna do today, Grandpa?" ~~Klair asked.~~

"We have a busy day ahead of us. Let's go catch Bobby, so ~~that~~ you can get her ready." ~~Grandpa said.~~

Grandpa grabbed a halter and a lead rope out of the tack shed and handed them to Klair. She slung them over her shoulder and followed Grandpa to the pasture where Bobby was munching on grass. Grandpa helped Klair put Bobby's halter on, and then they walked back to the tack shed, making one more short stop, so ~~that~~ Grandpa could get his horse, Notebar, out of his stall. They led the horses to the hitching rails and tied them up.

Klair first got a brush and ~~stroked~~ ~~brushed~~ Bobby's shiny coat, getting rid of all of the dust and making sure she was clean. ~~Then~~ ~~Next~~, she went into the tack shed and got a saddle blanket, placing it carefully on Bobby's back. One of Grandpa's ranch hands soon came over with a saddle ~~and helped Klair putting it on the saddle blanket and helping Klair~~ cinch it up tight, so ~~that~~ the saddle wouldn't slide. ~~After putting on her bridle, the ranch hand helped Klair onto the horse, into the saddle. They put Bobby's bridle on so that Bobby would know which way Klair wanted her to go and then the ranch hand gave Klair a boost up onto the saddle.~~ Grandpa was already on Notebar waiting, so Klair clicked her tongue and squeezed ~~with~~ her feet, ~~getting leading~~ Bobby ~~to trot walk~~ over to ~~Grandpa, where Grandpa was.~~

Klair followed Grandpa down to the big arena where there ~~were was~~ a bunch of cattle. She watched as ~~he Grandpa led the auction selling each cow to prospective buyers, started the auction and sold each cow to someone who had come to buy them.~~

Commented [A15]: Unnecessary dialogue tag as it is clear who is speaking.

Commented [A16]: Brushed is the right word, but something about got a brush and then brushed didn't seem right. You could say, she began brushing her shiny coat (implying that she has a brush without needing to say she got a brush) or change brushed to a different verb as I did here.

Commented [A17]: The word saddle is repeated a lot in this section, so I changed it to onto the horse.

Commented [A18]: This sentence was wordy with some description (i.e. what a saddle does) in an unnecessary spot.

Commented [A19]: The word started suggests it isn't the whole auction at this moment, but they you said he sold each cow, which would suggest more than the start of an auction.