Sample Response: Day 2, Initial Drafting

"Tyler!"

Tyler spun around at the sound of his name and scanned the crowd. Fast-moving travelers made it difficult to scan the faces in the Mexican airport. Suddenly Tyler noticed a jostling in the crowd, and Mari burst towards him. He ran to meet her, but as soon as they were within a few feet they both paused. *Should he hug her? Give her a high five?* he thought.

Before he could decide, Tyler was tackled around the waist by Mari's younger sisters, Lubi and Ofie. They bounced around him, eager to hear about his plane ride.

"Leave him alone, Tyler must be exhausted!" Mari laughed, as she shooed her sisters away. She grabbed the handle to his suitcase, while Tyler shouldered his duffel bag.

"Wow, I can't believe I'm actually here!" Tyler exclaimed, as they followed the crowds that seemed to be heading towards an exit. He could hardly believe that he was in another country, and that he was actually seeing his friend again.

On the drive to Mari's family home, Tyler was awestruck by the scenery around him. The vivid green trees and dirt roads were so familiar to him- just like Vermont- and yet at the same time everything was different. The color of the earth, the species of trees, and the songs of birds felt like a whole new world. While the two younger Marias chattered away beside him, Tyler tried to notice every detail of this new land.

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