

The Half She Didn't Do

Eight activities

Activity 1: The itch and the problem

Mussia's audit finds that Yitti's uneven draft "was not a problem Yitti had. It was an itch Mussia had." In your own words, what is the difference? Why does the difference decide whether the help is real? Two or three sentences.

Activity 2: The index card test

Copy the test from the index card, then use it: which of these is editing and which is replacing - (a) "This sentence is long; what do you most want it to say?" (b) rewriting the sentence yourself and handing it back; (c) "the pressure is explained twice - which version do you want to keep?" Explain your calls. Short answers.

Activity 3: Order the repair

Put these in the story's order, and say why the order matters: (a) the audit and the index card; (b) the tidy - the rewritten six paragraphs; (c) the original draft comes back out of the notebook's back; (d) "I can't find myself in it"; (e) three slower sessions. One sentence on why the order matters.

Activity 4: The session math - a made-up set of numbers

The numbers in this activity are made up for practice. Replacing a partner's 6-paragraph draft takes 1.5 hours, one person working alone. Editing it together takes 3 sessions of 1 hour each, both people in the room. (a) In person-hours, what does each path cost? (b) If the replaced path produces a board 1 person can explain at the exhibition, and the edited path a board 2 people can explain, what is the person-hour cost per person-who-owns-the-board, each way? What does the arithmetic leave out? Show your steps.

Activity 5: "Tight is not the point of the exercise."

Mussia gives back the lovely sentence in Yitti's original version "even though mine was tighter, because tight is not the point of the exercise." What WAS the point of the exercise, per Morah's day-one warning? Why does the crooked original end up better on the board? Two or three sentences.

Activity 6: Draw the notebook

Draw the shared notebook as Chapters 2-6 give it: the replaced pages in front, the original moved to the back, and the margin questions. Only what the story tells you. Caption it with one line from the story.

Activity 7: Kaila's poster - a fictional case

A girl named Kaila offers to "fix" her little sister's poster for the school fair and realizes, marker in hand, that she is about to redo the whole thing herself. Write the sentence she says to her sister instead, the one question she asks about the weakest part, and the rule she writes on an index card for her pencil case. One sentence each, with names.

Activity 8: Word grid

Find the eight words in the grid. They all go left to right, one per row.

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D R A F T V W F G H
E R A S E W F G H U
M A R G I N G H U P
P A R T N E R U P M
S M O O T H U P M N
R E P A I R P M N O
S E N T E N C E O R
O W N E R M N O R S
G H U P M N O R S T
H U P M N O R S T D

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The eight words: DRAFT, ERASE, MARGIN, PARTNER, SMOOTH, REPAIR, SENTENCE, OWNER. Which word names where the real help happens, and which word names what the board's second name has to belong to?