【2024新高考I 卷】

维也纳之约

I met Gunter on a cold, wet and unforgettable evening in September. I had planned to fly to Vienna and take a bus to Prague for a conference. Due to a big storm, my flight had been delayed by an hour and a half. I touched down in Vienna just 30minutes before the departure of the last bus to Prague. The moment I got off the plane, I ran like crazy through the airport building and jumped into the first taxi on the rank without a second thought.

That was when I met Gunter. I told him where I was going, but he said he hadn't heard of the bus station. I thought my pronunciation was the problem, so I explained again more slowly, but he still looked confused. When I was about to give up, Gunter fished out his little phone and rang up a friend. After a heated discussion that lasted for what seemed like a century, Gunter put his phone down and started the car.

Finally, with just two minutes to spare, we rolled into the bus station. Thankfully, there was a long queue still waiting to board the bus. Gunter parked the taxi behind the bus, turned around, and looked at me with a big smile on his face. "'We made it, "he said.

Just then I realised that I had zero cash in my wallet. I flashed him an apologetic smile as I pulled out my Portuguese bankcard. He tried it several times, but the card machine just did not play along. A feeling of helplessness washed over me as I saw the bus queue thinning out.

At this moment, Gunter pointed towards the waiting hall of the bus station. There at the entrance, was a cash machine. I jumped out of the car, made a mad run for the machine, and popped my card in, only to read the message, "Out of order. Sorry."

Para1 ：I ran back to Gunter and told him the bad news.

Para2： Four days later, when I was back in Vienna, I called Gunter as promised.

Para1 ：I ran back to Gunter and told him the bad news. When he heard it, his expression changed slightly but seeing my apologetic look on my face, Gunter reassured me, “ It’s not a big deal. ” Feeling extremely embarrassed and not knowing what to do with the unexpected situation, I was in a new dilemma. What I never expected was that he smiled warmly at me, shrugging his shoulders and straightforwardly responding “OK. The ride is free since you have no cash.” Noticing the bus was about to start, Gunter even urged me to board the bus to Prague in case I should miss the conference. After asking for his phone number, I jumped onto the bus and waved goodbye to Gunter. Moved to tears, I promised that I would be in Vienna for another conference in four days and that I would call him and pay him the taxi fee.

Para1 ：I ran back to Gunter and told him the bad news. Breathless and sweaty, I stole a secret look at the bus, sighing with a sinking heart. Definitely, I would miss the bus because of my silly mistake. It was too terrible to picture the coming disaster of not being able to attend the conference. Never in my wildest dream had I imagined that my inability to pay him didn’t bother him at all. Instead, he fished out some cash, rushed to purchase me a bus ticket and urged me to board the bus to Prague. Overwhelmed with an enormous sense of gratitude , I was almost moved to tears. With the bus about to start, after saying numerous thanks to Gunter, I asked him for his phone number, promising I would call him after the important conference in Prague and pay him the due taxi fee. Thanks to Gunter’s understanding and generosity, I made it to Prague and attended the conference on schedule.

Para2： Four days later, when I was back in Vienna, I called Gunter as promised. No sooner had he blurted out “hello” than his familiar, warm and reassuring voice came into my ears. Undoubtedly, when I explained my intention, he sounded more astounded than happy as if he couldn’t believe what he heard on the phone. We arranged to meet on the taxi rank of the Vienna airport, where I took his taxi and had a remarkable encounter with this humble but amazing taxi driver. As his car approached me, he invited me in, a wide smile blossoming on his face. 结尾句： *I jumped into his car, expressed my heartfelt gratitude and eventually paid off my previous debt.* // What happened on that September cold, wet and unforgettable evening served as a beautiful reminder of how trust can bring people closer together.