**Narrative Essay Planner**

**Exposition**

What background information do we need to know?

We had been camping at Palisades, a campground near Sioux Falls. It had been a long weekend full of late nights and long kayak rides with family and friends. We take this trip every summer as an end-of-summer celebration. My family and I do this with our long-time family friends, the Hennings. Over the years, my close friends, Josh and Parker and Tommy, have joined in on this tradition.

**Rising Action**

What is the conflict? We were low on gas.

1. We were headed back home with the camper hooked up and the kayaks strapped to the roof.

2. My husband had his motorcycle, so I was left to drive the camper home with Josh and Parker, but his communicator was dead.

3. I stopped to fill up with gas in a small town and paid at the pump.

4. We had gotten about a mile from the station when my car started making noises and spitting out black exhaust.

5. I called Zach but he didn’t answer. Shortly after, my parents pulled up behind us with their camper.

6. Josh drove the barely-running car back to the gas station.

**Climax**

What was the turning point?

My dad and I went into the gas station to get recommendations for a mechanic that would be able to help us on a Sunday. As I looked out the window, I realized what happened.

**Falling Action**

What is changing? I realized that I had put Diesel in my car, so we began to fix the problem.

1. I cried in my parents’ truck with my mom while my dad, husband, and friends began to siphon out the tank.

2. A man named “Big Mike” came to the gas station. He was a mechanic, and showed us a way to get the Diesel out of the tank faster.

3. I bought everyone a bunch of gas station pizza, candy, and soda while apologizing profusely.

**Resolution**

In what ways are you different now?

I now know to take my time when doing even the most rudimental tasks. I realize the importance of being aware. More so, I now know that everyone makes silly mistakes, but crying about it doesn’t fix anything. This incident was also a great reminder of how amazing my family and friends are, even though they’ll never let me forget it.

Story Topic: Filling up with gas after Palisades