

**STD 3 NATIONAL LEARNING ASSESSMENT**  
**MENTOR TEXT – BOOKLET 10**

**WE BROKE DOWN!**

Last Sunday, my family and I were super excited to go to the Paramin Lookout for a picnic. We packed sandwiches, juice, and even my new kite. My mom, dad, my little sister, Joy, and I all squeezed into our little blue car, ready for a fun day at the lookout. We were driving along the bumpy, narrow, winding country road, singing our favourite songs, when suddenly, the car started speaking a funny language.

It went “putt-putt... sputter... cough!” and then it just stopped right in the middle of the road! Dad tried to start it again, but it wouldn’t budge. Uh oh! We were stuck! Now, Paramin Lookout felt a million miles away. Joy started to get upset, asking if we were going to miss taking all the selfies she planned to take. I felt a little disappointed too, but Dad said, “Don’t worry, troopers! We’ll figure something out. This is just a little adventure!” Dad got out of the car and looked under the hood, but he didn’t seem to know what was wrong. Mom looked around and saw a small wooden house nearby. “Maybe someone there can help us?” she suggested.

Soon after, Dad and I went to the house to ask for help. We walked down a little dirt path and saw a big orange tractor behind the house. A friendly-looking villager with a straw hat was driving it. We waved and shouted, and he stopped the tractor. We explained our problem to the man who was glad to help. He smiled and said, “Well, I might be able to give you a little tow!” He hitched a rope from his tractor to the front of our car. Slowly but surely, the big tractor started pulling our little blue car. It was even more bumpy, but we were moving again!

The villager towed us all the way to the gas station. It turned out that we were out of gas because Dad didn’t realise that the gas gauge wasn’t working properly. We thanked the villager a million times for his kindness. Even though our car broke down, we still made it to the lookout, just a little bit later than planned. The car breaking down wasn’t part of our plan, but the kind villager and the bumpy tractor ride made it a memorable and funny part of our family trip! In the end, we still had a fantastic day.

