

Tara's Vanishing Day

As her alarm went off at 7:30 a.m., Tara hit the five-minute snooze button and slid deeper under the covers. A few vague thoughts drifted into her mind about the day ahead. The Drama Club would meet after school today, and Tara definitely wanted to, check it out. She also had to get going on her science project. That would mean library time.

Tara drifted off again. Not such a bad day.

At 8:15 a.m., Tara was frantically searching for clean jeans and her library card.

At 8:25, she was rushing to school (having forgotten her lunch) and talking by cell phone to her friend, Kevin.

"Hey, do you have time to go shopping with me for a soccer ball tonight?"

Kevin asked.

"Sure," said Tara, hoping she wasn't late for school and completely forgetting about her earlier plans.

Later that night, as Tara wrapped up her third after-dinner call, she looked back on the day. Since she had forgotten her lunch, she'd been forced to buy a burger at the local mall (despite her recent vow to eat healthy). Since she hadn't found her library card, she couldn't take any science books out of the library. And since she blew her money for lunch, she had none left over for photocopying. "Hmm," she thought, "Science project: 1. Tara: 0."

Tara slapped her forehead. Only then did she remember that she had missed the Drama Club meeting in order to go shopping with Kevin. It was probably too late now to find out about this year's try-outs. And would she even have time? Seemed like she was always catching up instead of getting ahead.

Tara sighed. She was no further ahead with her goals than she had been yesterday, and she hadn't touched tonight's homework. Where had the time gone?



1. a. Tara had some things she wanted to do, but by day's end, she hadn't done any of them! Why not? Identify all the places where Tara's day fell off the radar and simply "vanished." Use a table like the one on the back of this page.

b. What "vanishing moments" have you experienced?
2. Now suggest some things that Tara could have done to keep her day on track.
3. If you were an employer, would you hire Tara after seeing her vanishing day caught on video? Explain your answer in a brief e-mail to Tara. Give at least two reasons.

What Tara Did	How It Made The Day Vanish