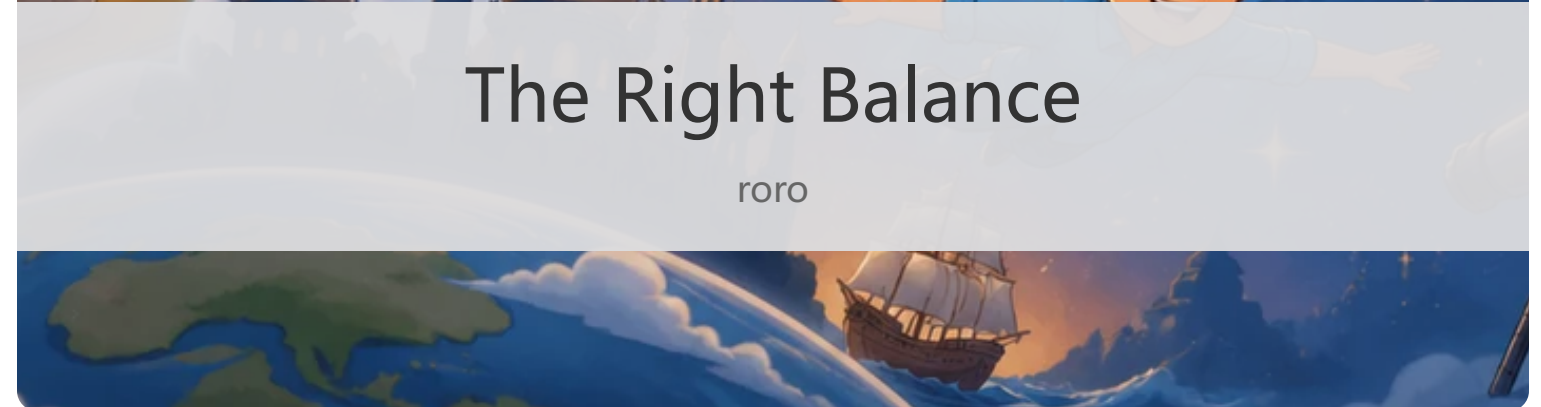




The Right Balance

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Eleven-year-old Tariq sits on the edge of his neatly made bed, staring longingly at his mobile phone. The digital glow reflects in his eyes as he wishes he could spend the whole afternoon playing his favorite online game.



His mother, wearing a elegant pastel hijab, enters the brightly lit room with a gentle expression. She looks toward his study desk, which is perfectly organized with a desktop computer and a neat stack of textbooks.



Sitting down on the chair by the desk, his mother taps the textbooks with a smile and reminds Tariq that his exams are approaching. Tariq slumps his shoulders slightly, holding his phone tightly as he tries to negotiate for just one more hour of gaming.



The atmosphere becomes a little tense as Tariq points to his phone, gesturing dynamically about how close he is to beating a high score. His mother listens patiently but folds her arms, shaking her head gently to show that schoolwork must come first.



Tariq stands up, looking frustrated as he explains how hard he has already worked this week. His mother stands up too, looking into his eyes with deep affection and calmness, wanting him to understand the importance of his future.



They both sit together on the edge of the bed to talk it out quietly. His mother places a gentle, reassuring hand on Tariq's shoulder, diffusing the tension as they begin to brainstorm a solution that satisfies them both.



His mother points toward the desk calendar and suggests a structured daily routine. Tariq looks at the books, then at his phone, realizing that his mother only wants what is best for him.



A bright smile breaks across Tariq's face as they reach a perfect agreement. They decide on a clear rule: three hours of focused studying every afternoon, followed by two rewarding hours of phone time.



Tariq sits enthusiastically at his small desk, opening his colorful textbook under the warm glow of the desk lamp. His mother stands by the doorway, looking back with a proud and peaceful smile as her son begins to read.



With his study time successfully completed, Tariq happily relaxes on his bed enjoying his two hours of phone time. The room feels peaceful and balanced, filled with the warmth of a family bond strengthened by understanding and respect.