



Riya's Big Interview Day

Namitha



Riya sat in a bright, modern waiting room, adjusting her blazer for the tenth time. Her palms felt a little damp, but a determined sparkle shone in her wide, expressive eyes as she clutched her folder. Sunlight streamed through the tall glass doors, highlighting the professional hum of the office.



Across the room, two other candidates calmly scrolled on their phones, looking perfectly poised. Riya took a deep breath, reminding herself to focus. Suddenly, a friendly employee walked past and offered a warm, encouraging smile, making Riya's heart flutter with a tiny spark of hope.



“Riya?” a cheerful voice called out. The HR manager, with a kind smile, stood at the doorway. Riya sprang up, smoothing her blazer one last time, and offered a firm, confident handshake, feeling a surge of readiness.



As Riya followed the HR manager down a colorful hallway, she noticed playful framed photos of team events and shiny achievement certificates. Colleagues waved and nodded encouragingly, their faces bright and engaged. The office felt like a lively, bustling hive of happy workers.



They entered a spacious conference room with a large, gleaming table. The HR manager gestured to a comfy-looking chair, explaining how the interview would go. Riya listened intently, her heart beating a steady, hopeful rhythm.



“So, tell me about yourself,” the HR manager began. For a comical split second, Riya’s mind went completely blank, a funny little ‘poof!’ appearing above her head. Then, her preparation kicked in, and words flowed out like a confident river, her shoulders relaxing with each sentence.



Riya spoke passionately about her academic adventures and proudest projects, her eyes sparkling as she described a challenge she had gleefully overcome. She answered questions about teamwork and problem-solving with thoughtful pauses, her genuine smiles lighting up the room.



“Now, for a short cognitive test!” the manager announced. Riya nodded, her eyes gleaming with focus. She tackled logical puzzles and numerical challenges with quiet concentration, her brow furrowed playfully as she navigated each brain teaser.



With the test complete, Riya shook hands with the HR manager once more, her grip firm and her smile bright. The manager explained the next steps, and Riya thanked her, feeling a sense of accomplishment bubbling inside.



Stepping out of the building, Riya took a deep, happy breath as the warm sunlight enveloped her. The nervousness had completely vanished, replaced by a wonderful, quiet pride. She had shown up as her very best self, and that felt like a victory all its own!