The secret was that grandpa and grandma would be flying in the day before Thanksgiving and staying for four days. Mom and dad had been coordinating it for months, and they were trying to surprise the grandkids. So far it was working perfectly. Grandpa and grandma had been saving up for years, **penny after penny**. They finally saved up the $1,500 needed for two plane tickets and were excited about their upcoming **journey**.

For nearly thirty years, Julius and Tanya’s grandfather build airplanes in Kansas City, Missouri. He worked for a company called Boeing. One day while he was installing some electrical wires in an airplane, a ladder from a nearby worker fell onto him knocking him off his own ladder that he was standing on. He fell hard to the ground and broke 5 bones in his back in the process. *Crash!* He’s lucky he was wearing his helmet or else he may not have survived. He hasn’t worked since that day, but has still been collecting a retirement check.

While Julius and Tanya attended their final day of school before their Thanksgiving break, grandpa sat quietly in the airport terminal speaking to their mom from his brand new iPhone, a gift he received from the family last year.

“We’re boarding the plane in just a few minutes. How’s the weather out in Perris? We’re having a pretty good rain storm here in Missouri.”

“The weather is just fine. We can’t wait to see you. It’s been far too long, replied mom. Will you and mom please hurry things up? I’m getting impatient,” **replied mom in a sarcastic tone**.

“Haha! In my old age, I’m just glad I made it to the airport. I’m **pooped**! I think your mother and I will both be **catching some Z’s** on the airplane,” said grandpa calmly.

“You rest up. How’s your back holding up?” yelled dad who was listening in on the call.

“It’ll be just fine. The **surgeon** did a wonderful job. I’ve only been getting better. We can’t wait to see you and those wonderful grandkids.”

As they boarded the plane, grandpa joked with the flight attendant. “This is the plane that’ll take me back in time, right? I could sure use it.”

“It sure it, sir. You’re in the right place,” she joked in return. “Ya’ll enjoy the flight. We’ll be there before you know it.”

Meanwhile back in Perris, Julius was just beginning his Guided Reading class while Tanya’s class is running the mile with their P.E. Coach. Both of their homeroom teachers have had excellent things to say about their schoolwork during conference week last week. Usually their parents give them some sort of reward during Thanksgiving break if their grades are **up to par**, but neither of them have any idea as to what it’ll be this year. They also have no idea who will be picking them up from school today.