Emphatic Structures: Cleft Sentences

You can add emphasis to a sentence by shifting one element of it from its normal place into a separate clause.

**EXAMPLE:** I don’t like Kim’s new hairdo.
It’s Kim’s new hairdo that I don’t like.

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the paragraph. Then complete each sentence by creating a cleft sentence.

Traffic was terrible because of the weather. Rain came down in sheets. For ten miles, a line of cars barely moved. Roger sighed. He had been in the car for hours, and he had hours, still, to go.

1. Traffic was terrible because of an accident. No, it __________________________
   ___________________________________________________________ that traffic was terrible.

2. The rain came down in a drizzle. No, it __________________________
   ___________________________________________________________ that the rain came down.

3. For five miles, a line of cars barely moved. No, it __________________________
   ___________________________________________________________ that a line of cars barely moved.

4. Roger sighed because he was bored. No, it __________________________
   ___________________________________________________________ that Roger sighed.

5. Roger had been in the car for ten minutes. No, it __________________________
   ___________________________________________________________ that Roger had been in the car.