A Change in the Wind

Read a story to trace how a misunderstanding changes.

5.LF.19 "Interpret how authors use literary elements throughout a text, including character, setting, conflict, dialogue, and point of view."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details showing how the wind affects the kite, circle Eli's words that change how the narrator sees him, and number the narrator's first and last reactions to Eli to track the change.

The Orange Comet

1 At the school kite day, wind rolled across the open field and tugged at my paper kite. I had painted a bright orange comet on it, and I wanted everyone to see it fly. Then a sharp gust tore one corner. Eli hurried over with a roll of tape. “I can fix that,” he said. I pulled the kite away. Last year, Eli had laughed when my first kite spun into a tree.

2 “You don't have to trust me,” Eli said, “but the wind will rip that corner wider.” I stared at the tear. Behind us, other kites climbed above the field, and my stomach tightened. Eli held out the tape without stepping closer. “I laughed because mine was stuck in the same tree,” he added. “I was laughing at myself.” I had only seen his grin, not the kite tangled above mine.

3 I took the tape. Eli held the kite steady while I pressed the torn edges together. We added a short strip to each side, then waited for a softer breeze. “Ready?” he asked. This time, his grin looked friendly. I ran, and the orange comet rose above us. When it dipped, Eli caught the string before it touched the grass. I handed him the spool so we could fly it together.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the wind create a problem for the narrator, and how does it affect the way the classmates fix it?

2. What does the narrator think Eli's laugh meant at first? How does Eli's dialogue change that idea?

3. How does telling the story with "I" affect what you know about Eli before he explains himself?

4. How do the narrator's actions near the end show that the problem with Eli has changed?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new 4- to 5-sentence scene about two different classmates at a windy field. Use first person, let the wind cause a new problem, add one line of dialogue that changes what the narrator thinks about the other classmate, and end with an action that shows their relationship has changed.

ANSWER KEY

A Change in the Wind

GRADE 5 · 5.LF.19

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details showing how the wind affects the kite, circle Eli's words that change how the narrator sees him, and number the narrator's first and last reactions to Eli to track the change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the wind create a problem for the narrator, and how does it affect the way the classmates fix it?	**A gust tears the kite's corner. After taping it, the classmates wait for a softer breeze before flying it.**
2	What does the narrator think Eli's laugh meant at first? How does Eli's dialogue change that idea?	**The narrator thinks Eli laughed at the narrator's kite. Eli explains that he was laughing at his own kite, which was stuck in the same tree.**
3	How does telling the story with "I" affect what you know about Eli before he explains himself?	**Readers know only what the narrator noticed: Eli's grin. They do not learn that Eli's kite was also stuck until he says so.**
4	How do the narrator's actions near the end show that the problem with Eli has changed?	**The narrator first pulls the kite away from Eli but later accepts his help and hands him the spool so they can fly it together.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I thought Nora was stealing my ribbon when a gust blew it toward her. I chased her across the field, angry that my kite would be bare. "I'm keeping it off the muddy grass until you get here," she called. I saw her holding the ribbon safely above the mud and felt foolish. I thanked her and asked her to help tie it back on my kite.

Accept answers that connect a story detail to its effect on the characters or the reader. For the final task, look for a new wind-related problem, a shift in the narrator's view caused by dialogue, and a closing action that shows the shift.