

Lantern Trouble

Notice how a narrative uses sequence, details, and a satisfying ending.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.3 "Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details and well-structured event sequences."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline words or phrases that show what happens first, next, and last. Circle two details that help you picture Maya's problem or understand her feelings.

The Festival Lantern

- ① On Saturday morning, Maya carried a paper lantern to the neighborhood garden festival. She had spent two afternoons painting blue waves along its sides, and she planned to hang it beside the pond. As she crossed the footbridge, a sharp wind rushed through the trees. The lantern slipped from her hands, bounced once on the wooden boards, and tumbled into the tall grass below. Maya gripped the railing and stared at the place where it disappeared.
- ② Her friend Luis hurried over with a rake, but Maya shook her head. "We might tear it," she said. Then she noticed a thin blue corner near a clump of ferns. Kneeling carefully, she reached through the damp grass and pulled the lantern free. One side was wrinkled, and a small tear crossed a painted wave. Maya felt heat rise in her cheeks. The festival bell would ring soon, and her lantern no longer looked ready.
- ③ At the snack table, Maya found a roll of clear tape and a strip of blue ribbon from a gift basket. She smoothed the torn paper against the lantern's frame, covered the rip with tape, and tied the ribbon around the wrinkled side. When the bell rang, she carried the repaired lantern to the pond. In the evening light, the ribbon fluttered like a tiny wave. Luis smiled, and Maya smiled back. Her lantern was not perfect, but it was hers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What event begins Maya's problem? Use one detail from the first paragraph.

2 Which detail makes the problem feel more urgent? Explain why it matters.

3 List three important events in order that move Maya from the problem to the solution.

4 How does the last paragraph give the narrative a resolution? Use details about Maya's actions and thoughts.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-paragraph narrative about a small problem you solve. Show events in a clear order, include at least two specific details, and end by showing how the problem is resolved.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

As you read, underline words or phrases that show what happens first, next, and last. Circle two details that help you picture Maya's problem or understand her feelings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What event begins Maya's problem? Use one detail from the first paragraph.	A strong wind makes Maya's lantern slip from her hands and tumble into the tall grass.
2	Which detail makes the problem feel more urgent? Explain why it matters.	"The festival bell would ring soon" makes the problem urgent because Maya has little time to fix the lantern.
3	List three important events in order that move Maya from the problem to the solution.	The lantern falls into the grass, Maya finds it torn, and Maya repairs it with tape and ribbon before hanging it by the pond.
4	How does the last paragraph give the narrative a resolution? Use details about Maya's actions and thoughts.	Maya repairs and hangs the lantern, then accepts that it is imperfect but still hers.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

During art class, I carried my clay bowl to the drying shelf. My hands were dusty, and the bowl felt slippery. When someone bumped my elbow, the bowl tipped, and a thin crack opened along the rim. I wanted to hide it, but I showed Ms. Chen. She gave me a cup of water and a small piece of clay. I pressed the soft clay into the crack and smoothed it with a wet finger. The next day, the bowl stood safely on the shelf. The repaired rim was bumpy, but it reminded me that I had solved the problem instead of quitting.

Accept equivalent evidence-based answers to the questions. For the narrative, look for a clear beginning, middle, and ending, a problem and resolution, and specific details that develop the events.