The Quiet Bridge

Read closely to follow a character's choices and their results.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10 "By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show Maya makes careful choices. Number the three main events in the order they happen to help you understand the story.

The Quiet Bridge

1 After a night of hard rain, Maya hurried toward the footbridge that led to school. A stream usually slipped under the bridge, but today brown water rushed over its wooden boards. On the far bank, Maya saw her neighbor Mr. Lee holding a bag of library books. He waved, then looked at the water with worried eyes.

2 Maya wanted to cross, but she remembered her teacher's rule about floodwater: never step into water when you cannot see the ground. She called to Mr. Lee, "We should find another way." Mr. Lee pointed upstream, where a wide stone path curved through the park. It would take longer, and Maya might be late, but the path stayed dry.

3 They walked through the wet park together. Near the stone path, they found a small turtle upside down in a puddle. Maya gently turned it over with a leaf, and it crawled into tall grass. When they reached school, Maya was late, but her teacher listened. "You made careful choices," she said. Maya smiled and opened her damp notebook.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What problem does Maya see when she gets to the footbridge?

2. Why does Maya decide not to cross the bridge?

3. What route do Maya and Mr. Lee take instead?

4. What careful choices did Maya make in the story?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence summary of the story. Tell what happens at the beginning, middle, and end in your own words.

ANSWER KEY

The Quiet Bridge

GRADE 3 · RL.3.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show Maya makes careful choices. Number the three main events in the order they happen to help you understand the story. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem does Maya see when she gets to the footbridge?	**Brown floodwater is rushing over the wooden boards of the bridge.**
2	Why does Maya decide not to cross the bridge?	**She remembers that she should not step into water when she cannot see the ground.**
3	What route do Maya and Mr. Lee take instead?	**They take the wide stone path through the park.**
4	What careful choices did Maya make in the story?	**She chose the dry path instead of crossing floodwater, and she gently helped the upside-down turtle.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Maya finds that floodwater covers the bridge to school. She and Mr. Lee take a longer, dry path through the park, where Maya helps a turtle. Maya arrives late, but her teacher says she made careful choices.

Accept answers that use details from all three parts of the story and show that Maya avoids danger. For the summary, accept three sentences in the student's own words that state the beginning problem, the safe route, and the ending.