Lantern Light

Read a story closely and trace a character's changing thoughts.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.10 "By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline three details that show how Nia's feelings about the lantern change. Number the details 1, 2, and 3 to trace how you understand her final choice.

Nia's Blue Lantern

1. On the evening before the town's lantern walk, Nia found a dented blue lantern in her grandmother's shed. Its glass was cloudy, and one metal star hung loose. "Choose a newer one," Grandma said. Nia almost did. Then she remembered Grandma telling stories about carrying this lantern beside the river when she was young. Nia wrapped it in her scarf and carried it inside.

2. At the kitchen table, Nia rubbed the glass with a soft cloth. She wanted the lantern to shine like the brass ones in the shop, but the cloudiness stayed. Her little brother Leo laughed. "It looks like a tired fish bowl." Nia felt heat in her cheeks. For a moment, she set the lantern by the door, ready to trade it for a new one.

3. At dusk, the walkers gathered at the river path. New lanterns flashed yellow and red, but Nia's blue lantern made a gentle, silver circle on the ground. Grandma slipped her hand into Nia's. "That light has traveled with our family," she said. Nia lifted the handle higher. She no longer wished for a lantern that looked perfect. She wanted one that carried a story.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why does Nia first decide to keep the old lantern instead of choosing a newer one?

2. How does Leo's comment affect Nia? Use one action from the story to support your answer.

3. How is Nia's blue lantern different from the new lanterns at the river path? What does this difference help Nia understand?

4. What lesson does Nia learn by the end of the story? Use a detail from the passage in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence diary entry from Leo after the lantern walk. Include two details from the story and explain what Leo now understands about Nia's lantern.

ANSWER KEY # Lantern Light

GRADE 4 · RL.4.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

As you read, underline three details that show how Nia's feelings about the lantern change. Number the details 1, 2, and 3 to trace how you understand her final choice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why does Nia first decide to keep the old lantern instead of choosing a newer one?	**She remembers Grandma's stories about carrying the lantern beside the river when she was young.**
2	How does Leo's comment affect Nia? Use one action from the story to support your answer.	**Nia feels embarrassed and uncertain. She feels heat in her cheeks and sets the lantern by the door, ready to trade it.**
3	How is Nia's blue lantern different from the new lanterns at the river path? What does this difference help Nia understand?	**The new lanterns flash bright yellow and red, while Nia's makes a gentle silver circle. Nia understands that her lantern is valuable because it carries her family's story.**
4	What lesson does Nia learn by the end of the story? Use a detail from the passage in your answer.	**Nia learns that an old, imperfect object can be special because of its memories and history. She wants a lantern that carries a story.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Tonight, I saw Nia's blue lantern make a silver circle on the river path. It did not shine like the new lanterns, but Grandma said it had traveled with our family. I understand now that an old object can be special because it carries memories.

Accept answers that accurately explain Nia's changing feelings and support ideas with details from the passage. For the diary entry, accept reasonable inferences from Leo's point of view when the response has three sentences and includes two story details.