

Lantern Light Story

Notice how picture details shape a story's feeling and meaning.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.7 "Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., graphic novel, multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one phrase in each paragraph that tells what happens. Circle details inside each [Picture] note that change the mood or help you understand the event.

The Marsh Lantern

- ① At dusk, Nia carried a paper lantern to the marsh. Her grandfather had asked her to guide a lost heron chick back to the reeds. The chick peeped from her basket. [Picture: Nia stands small beside tall, dark cattails. Her round lantern glows gold.] Nia tightened her coat and followed the narrow path into the mist.
- ② A wind shook the cattails, and the path disappeared under a silver fog. Nia heard splashes, then saw two bright eyes near the water. [Picture: The page is mostly blue-gray. The lantern makes one warm circle around Nia and the chick.] She wanted to turn back, but the chick leaned toward the eyes and chirped softly.
- ③ The eyes belonged to the chick's mother, standing quietly in the reeds. Nia set the basket down. The chick hurried across the muddy edge, and the heron opened its wide wings. [Picture: Gold from the lantern spreads across the water, where it mixes with the first pink light of dawn.] Nia smiled and walked home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How does the first picture help you understand Nia's situation at the start of the story?

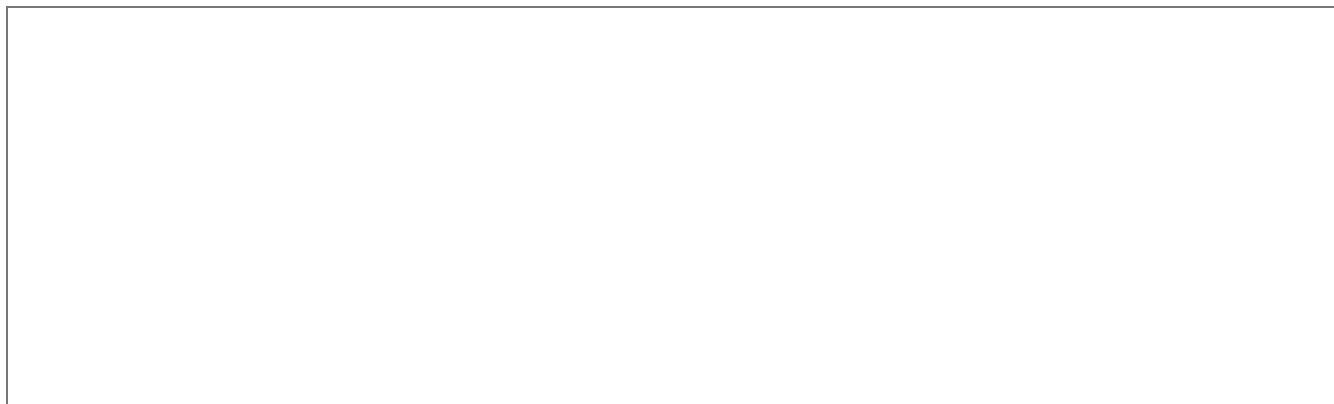
2 What mood does the second picture create? Use two picture details to explain.

3 How does the final picture change the tone of the story?

4 How does the lantern's appearance across the three pictures support the story's meaning?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine a fourth picture that takes place after Nia walks home. Draw it and add two labels for important visual details. Then write two sentences explaining how your picture details create a tone or add meaning to the ending.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one phrase in each paragraph that tells what happens. Circle details inside each [Picture] note that change the mood or help you understand the event. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the first picture help you understand Nia's situation at the start of the story?	It shows Nia as small beside tall, dark cattails, making the marsh seem large and Nia seem alone or vulnerable.
2	What mood does the second picture create? Use two picture details to explain.	It creates a tense, uncertain mood. The blue-gray page and the small warm circle of lantern light make the foggy marsh seem dark and unfamiliar.
3	How does the final picture change the tone of the story?	It changes the tone to calm and hopeful because gold lantern light mixes with pink dawn light on the water.
4	How does the lantern's appearance across the three pictures support the story's meaning?	The lantern changes from a small glow in darkness to light spreading at dawn, showing that the frightening journey has become safe and hopeful.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Drawing: Nia and the heron stand beside a quiet, sunlit pond. Labels: "soft yellow sun" and "still water." The soft yellow sun makes the ending feel calm and hopeful. The still water shows that the marsh is peaceful after the rescue.

Accept answers that connect specific picture details to a reasonable explanation of mood, tone, or story meaning. For Part 3, accept varied drawings if the labels and two sentences clearly explain how visual choices affect the reader.