Boat Race Voices

Notice how dialogue and details show a character's response.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3b "Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each line of dialogue. Circle actions, thoughts, or feelings that show how a character responds to a problem or change.

The Little Float Race

1 On Saturday, Maya carried her cardboard boat to the park pond. She had spent all week building it for the Little Float race. At the water's edge, a gust bent the paper flag on top. Maya held the boat close. “What if it sinks?” she whispered. Her stomach felt jumpy, but she placed the boat beside the other racers.

2 The race leader called, “Ready, set, float!” Maya let go. Her boat bobbed forward, then tipped toward a patch of reeds. Maya gasped and squeezed her hands together. “Come on, Bluebird,” she said. A small wave turned the boat away from the reeds. Maya laughed loudly. She ran along the bank, keeping her eyes on the bright blue sail.

3 Near the finish line, Bluebird slowed. Another boat slid past it. Maya's smile faded, and she wanted to look away. Then her grandfather called, “Keep watching. You made that boat!” Maya took a deep breath. “It can still float,” she replied. Bluebird crossed the line in third place. Maya lifted it carefully. Although she did not win, she felt proud of trying her plan on the water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does Maya's first spoken line show about how she feels before the race?

2. What action shows that Maya is nervous when Bluebird tips toward the reeds?

3. What happens that makes Maya laugh loudly?

4. How does Maya respond after her grandfather tells her to keep watching?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write 4 to 5 sentences about a time a plan changes during an activity. Include one line of dialogue, at least two action details, and a thought or feeling that shows how the character responds.

ANSWER KEY

Boat Race Voices

GRADE 3 · W.3.3b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each line of dialogue. Circle actions, thoughts, or feelings that show how a character responds to a problem or change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Maya's first spoken line show about how she feels before the race?	**She feels worried that her boat might sink.**
2	What action shows that Maya is nervous when Bluebird tips toward the reeds?	**She gasps and squeezes her hands together.**
3	What happens that makes Maya laugh loudly?	**A small wave turns Bluebird away from the reeds.**
4	How does Maya respond after her grandfather tells her to keep watching?	**She takes a deep breath and says, "It can still float."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the school garden, Leo saw that his tomato plant had fallen over after the rain. He pressed the wet soil around its stem and said, "I can help you stand." Leo felt worried, but he found a stick and tied the plant gently to it. When the leaves lifted toward the sun, he smiled and thought, "My plant may be okay."

Accept quoted or clearly identified dialogue, along with accurate actions, thoughts, and feelings from the passage. For the writing task, accept varied situations if the response includes the required dialogue and details that show a character reacting to a change.