Storm at Harbor

Track how story parts build a plot.

ELA.5.R.1 "Reading Prose and Poetry"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details about the setting, circle the conflict, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside three events that move the story from problem to solution. These details show how the plot develops.

The Mural Plan

1. On Saturday morning, Maya carried her sketchbook to Harbor Park, where the town planned to repaint the faded whale mural. A cool wind lifted salt from the bay, and gray clouds pressed low over the picnic tables. Maya had promised to draw a new border for the mural, but when she arrived, she saw that rainwater had washed the paint boxes into a muddy ditch.

2. Maya wanted to quit because the paint looked ruined, and the volunteers were due in an hour. Then Mr. Ortiz, the park keeper, pointed to a dry storage shed behind the stage. Inside, Maya found old brushes, a bucket, and three sealed cans of blue paint. She asked two younger children to rinse the muddy boxes while she mixed a lighter color for the border.

3. By noon, the clouds broke apart, and sunlight shone on the wall. The children returned the cleaned boxes, and Maya used the saved paint to add waves around the whale. When the volunteers arrived, they found a bright mural ready for its final coat. Maya taped her sketch to the fence, pleased that the storm had changed her plan but had not stopped the project.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the weather in the setting create a problem for Maya?

2. What is Maya's main conflict in the story?

3. What event helps Maya begin to solve the conflict?

4. What does Maya's response to the problem show about her character? Use one action from the passage as evidence.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence plot about a character facing a problem in a specific setting. Include one setting detail, the conflict, two events that show the character responding, and a solution.

ANSWER KEY

Storm at Harbor

GRADE 5 · ELA.5.R.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details about the setting, circle the conflict, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside three events that move the story from problem to solution. These details show how the plot develops. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the weather in the setting create a problem for Maya?	**Rainwater washes the paint boxes into a muddy ditch, making Maya think the paint may be ruined.**
2	What is Maya's main conflict in the story?	**She needs paint to finish the mural border, but the rain has washed the paint boxes into mud and volunteers will arrive soon.**
3	What event helps Maya begin to solve the conflict?	**Mr. Ortiz points her to the storage shed, where she finds brushes, a bucket, and sealed cans of blue paint.**
4	What does Maya's response to the problem show about her character? Use one action from the passage as evidence.	**Maya is resourceful and cooperative. She finds supplies, asks younger children to rinse the boxes, and mixes paint for the border.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the dusty community garden on a hot afternoon, Inez saw that the hose had split and water was soaking the path. She worried the new bean plants would dry out before evening. Inez carried buckets from the rain barrel while her brother held the split hose closed with tape. By sunset, the plants had water, and Inez marked the hose for repair.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the setting, conflict, events, and character trait when supported by details from the passage. For the open task, accept a logical four-sentence plot with a setting, problem, two response events, and a solution.