

Craft Clues

Notice how an author's choices shape your thoughts and feelings.

3.P.AC.1 "Reading like a Writer: Interpret texts through the author's lens by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating craft techniques that are connected to the responses, thoughts, decisions, and questions triggered by the text."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle words that help you feel Maya's worry or relief. Underline the question, and put a star beside the very short sentence.

The Peep Below

- ① After school, Maya heard a tiny peep near the storm drain. Rain tapped the sidewalk, and a cold wind pushed wrappers along the curb. She knelt beside the dark opening and held her breath. Another peep floated up. Was a bird trapped below? Maya's stomach felt tight, but she did not walk away. Instead, she looked for help.
- ② A park worker, Mr. Lee, was raking leaves nearby. Maya waved both arms. "Please come!" she called. Mr. Lee lifted the drain cover with a tool, and a wet sparrow hopped onto the grass. Maya wrapped the bird in her scarf. Then she carried it to the park office, where it could warm up in a box.
- ③ At the office, Maya watched the sparrow blink and shake its feathers. Drip. Drip. Water fell from its wings into the box. Soon, the bird gave a strong chirp. Maya smiled at Mr. Lee. The rain still tapped outside, but it no longer sounded scary. Maya knew she had made the right choice by asking for help.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How do the words "cold," "dark," and "tight" affect how you feel about the drain?

2 Why might the author ask, "Was a bird trapped below?"

3 Why might the author use the very short sentence "Drip. Drip."?

4 What decision does Maya make? Name one author's choice that shows why she makes that decision.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences about a character who notices an animal that needs help. Include one sensory detail and one question to show the character's thoughts, then tell what the character decides to do.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle words that help you feel Maya's worry or relief. Underline the question, and put a star beside the very short sentence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the words "cold," "dark," and "tight" affect how you feel about the drain?	They make the drain seem scary and help the reader feel Maya's worry.
2	Why might the author ask, "Was a bird trapped below?"	The question makes the reader wonder about the bird and builds worry.
3	Why might the author use the very short sentence "Drip. Drip."?	It helps the reader hear the water and notice that the sparrow is wet.
4	What decision does Maya make? Name one author's choice that shows why she makes that decision.	Maya decides to help the sparrow. Her "tight" stomach, the question, or the bird's tiny peep shows that she is concerned.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Lena heard scratching under the porch, and dry leaves rustled around her shoes. Was a kitten hiding in the dark space? She called her dad and brought a bowl of water.

Accept answers that identify a craft choice and explain its effect on the reader's feelings, thoughts, or understanding of Maya's decision. For Part 3, accept any three-sentence scene with a sensory detail, a question, and a clear decision to help an animal.