The Missing Ribbon

Notice how a character's choices reveal a story's lesson.

3.T.T.1.c "Describe characters' traits, motivations, actions, thoughts, and feelings and explain their connection to the central message, lesson, or moral of the story. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show Lena's actions, thoughts, or feelings. Circle the sentence that tells the story's lesson.

A Kite Contest Choice

1. On Saturday, Lena carried a blue ribbon to the park for the kite contest. At the gate, she saw Omar searching the grass with wet eyes. His little sister had tied the ribbon to her kite, but the wind had pulled it away. Lena wanted to race inside because the contest would begin soon. Still, she stopped and asked where Omar had looked.

2. Lena remembered that the contest prize was a paint set she hoped to win. She took off her shoes and walked slowly along the muddy edge of the pond. Omar checked the bushes nearby. When Lena spotted blue cloth caught on a branch, she felt relieved. She handed the ribbon to Omar, even though mud covered her socks and the starting bell rang.

3. Omar's sister hugged Lena and said, "You missed your contest chance because of us." Lena watched Omar tie the ribbon to the kite. Then she smiled and helped them lift it into the wind. The kite rose high above the trees. Lena did not win a paint set that day, but she learned that helping someone can matter more than getting a prize.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which trait does Lena show when she stops to help Omar? Use one detail from the story.

2. What motivates Lena to want to race into the park?

3. How does Lena feel when she sees the blue cloth? What does she do next?

4. How do Lena's choices connect to the lesson at the end of the story?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence mini-story. Show a character's trait, what the character wants, an action and feeling, and end with a lesson that connects to the character's choices.

ANSWER KEY

The Missing Ribbon

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show Lena's actions, thoughts, or feelings. Circle the sentence that tells the story's lesson. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which trait does Lena show when she stops to help Omar? Use one detail from the story.	**Lena is kind or helpful. She stops to ask Omar where he has looked, even though the contest is about to begin.**
2	What motivates Lena to want to race into the park?	**She wants a chance to win the paint set prize.**
3	How does Lena feel when she sees the blue cloth? What does she do next?	**She feels relieved, and she gives the ribbon to Omar.**
4	How do Lena's choices connect to the lesson at the end of the story?	**She gives up her contest chance to help Omar, showing that helping someone can matter more than getting a prize.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Nia wanted to finish her puzzle before lunch. When Theo could not find a piece, patient Nia helped him search under the table. She felt proud when they found it together. Nia learned that sharing your time can be more important than finishing first.

Accept reasonable trait words if students support them with a passage detail. For Part 3, accept any clear character choice and feeling that connect logically to the stated lesson.