Fix It, Maya

Notice how details, dialogue, and event order build a story.

4.T.T.1.a "Analyze the use of narrative techniques to present ideas, design texts, and convey information about characters, setting, and plot. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show the setting, circle the words people say, and number three main events that move the plot forward. These techniques show where the story happens, what characters are like, and how the problem is solved.

The Garden Pipe

1 On Saturday morning, Maya carried a toolbox to the community garden. Rain from the night before shone on the wooden beds, and worms curled in the dark soil. Near the gate, she found Mr. Lee staring at a broken water pipe. "The seedlings need a drink," he said. Maya set down her toolbox and looked at the puddle spreading by his boots.

2 First, Maya tightened the loose metal ring with a wrench. Water sprayed across her sleeves, but the pipe still dripped. Mr. Lee shook his head. Maya noticed a rubber washer lying beside the tool shed. "This small circle may be the missing piece," she said. She slid it inside the pipe, then turned the handle. The dripping stopped.

3 Just then, sunlight broke through the clouds. A thin stream ran from the pipe into the garden bed, and the drooping bean plants lifted their leaves. Mr. Lee smiled. "You watched carefully instead of giving up," he said. Maya wiped mud from her hands and grinned. As she packed her toolbox, she decided to learn how to fix more things around the garden.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1 How do the details about rain, dark soil, and a puddle help you picture the setting?

2 What does Mr. Lee's statement, "The seedlings need a drink," reveal about him?

3 How does the word "but" in the second paragraph help move the plot forward?

4 How do the details about the bean plants and Maya's final decision show the resolution?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence mini-scene about a character solving a small problem. Include one setting detail, one line of dialogue, and at least two events in order that show something about the character.

Fix It, Maya

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that show the setting, circle the words people say, and number three main events that move the plot forward. These techniques show where the story happens, what characters are like, and how the problem is solved. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the details about rain, dark soil, and a puddle help you picture the setting?	**They show that the community garden is wet after rain, which makes the broken water pipe an important problem.**
2	What does Mr. Lee's statement, "The seedlings need a drink," reveal about him?	**It shows that he is concerned about the young plants getting water.**
3	How does the word "but" in the second paragraph help move the plot forward?	**It shows that Maya's first repair does not work, so she must look for another solution.**
4	How do the details about the bean plants and Maya's final decision show the resolution?	**The plants receive water after the pipe is fixed, and Maya decides to learn to fix more things.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the windy bus stop, Omar saw papers blow from his sister's folder. "I will catch them," he said, racing after the pages. He pinned the last page under his shoe and handed the stack back, showing that he was helpful and quick to act.

For marking, accept underlined setting details, circled dialogue, and a reasonable three-step plot sequence. For Part 3, accept any original three-sentence scene that includes all required techniques and shows a character trait through actions or dialogue.