Kites and Choices

Trace how character interactions reveal more than one theme.

6.T.T.1.c "Identify multiple themes and describe how the relationships and interactions between characters influence and shape themes. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two interactions between Mina and Theo, circle one character response, and write 1 and 2 beside details that support two different themes.

The Blue Kite

1 On the morning of the town's kite festival, Mina found her neighbor Theo standing beside a crumpled blue kite. "I tore it," he said, holding out the string. Mina had spent three afternoons painting silver stars on that kite for the community contest. She wanted to snap at him, but Theo's red eyes made her pause. "Why were you using it?" she asked. Theo pointed toward his little sister, whose paper kite had blown into a tree. "I thought mine could help pull it down."

2 Mina carried the damaged kite to her garage, where her grandfather kept tools. Theo followed quietly. When Mina reached for tape, Theo said, "I can fix the tear. My dad repairs sails, and he showed me how." Mina almost told him to leave, yet she handed him the tape. Together, they smoothed the rip and glued a narrow cloth strip behind it. As they worked, Theo admitted that he had borrowed the kite without asking. Mina said, "Next time, ask me. I might help."

3 At the festival, wind tugged at every kite on the hill. Theo held the reel while Mina checked the repaired seam. When the blue kite rose, the silver stars flashed above the crowd. A judge stopped nearby and asked who had made it. Mina looked at Theo. "We repaired it together," she said. Theo smiled, then found his sister and helped her launch her own kite. Mina did not win the contest, but she walked home carrying an empty reel and feeling lighter than before.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What causes the conflict between Mina and Theo? How does Theo's relationship with his sister affect Mina's first response?

2. What theme about trust is developed when Theo admits his mistake and helps repair the kite? Explain how Mina and Theo's interaction develops this theme.

3. Identify a second theme in the passage. Use two interactions between characters to explain how that theme develops.

4. How do Mina's words to the judge and her feeling at the end show that her relationship with Theo has changed?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 4 to 6 sentence scene about two characters dealing with one problem. State two themes, and explain how an interaction between the characters develops each theme.

ANSWER KEY

Kites and Choices

GRADE 6 · 6.T.T.1.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two interactions between Mina and Theo, circle one character response, and write 1 and 2 beside details that support two different themes. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What causes the conflict between Mina and Theo? How does Theo's relationship with his sister affect Mina's first response?	**Theo borrowed Mina's kite without asking and tore it. He was trying to help his little sister, and seeing his concern makes Mina pause instead of snapping at him.**
2	What theme about trust is developed when Theo admits his mistake and helps repair the kite? Explain how Mina and Theo's interaction develops this theme.	**Honesty and responsibility can rebuild trust. Theo admits borrowing the kite and works to repair it, while Mina gives him a chance to help and tells him to ask next time.**
3	Identify a second theme in the passage. Use two interactions between characters to explain how that theme develops.	**Helping and working together can matter more than winning. Mina and Theo repair the kite together, Mina gives Theo credit before the judge, and Theo later helps his sister launch her kite.**
4	How do Mina's words to the judge and her feeling at the end show that her relationship with Theo has changed?	**Mina says that she and Theo repaired the kite together, showing that she now includes him instead of blaming him. She feels lighter even though she does not win, showing that repairing their relationship matters to her.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After Rosa accidentally spilled paint on Malik's map, she expected him to blame her. Instead, Malik asked her to help redraw the river before the display opened. As they worked, Rosa admitted her mistake, and Malik showed her how to mix the right color. One theme is that honesty can repair trust because Rosa tells the truth and Malik gives her a chance to help. Another theme is that patience turns mistakes into learning because Malik stays calm and teaches Rosa a new skill.

Accept equivalent theme statements that are supported by clear details from the passage. Students should explain how character choices or interactions develop each theme, not only name a theme.