Craft Shows Change

Notice how craft choices reveal a narrator's changing point of view.

7.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 Underline two details that reveal the narrator's feelings about the garden. Circle the only question in the passage, then number the three sentence fragments in the final paragraph 1, 2, and 3 to see how the author shows a change in the narrator's thoughts.

The Garden Vote

1 At the edge of Maple Street, workers had painted bright orange Xs on the empty lot where our neighborhood garden grew. By Saturday, the tomato vines would be pulled out for a parking area. I stood beside the gate, rubbing soil from my thumb. Mrs. Alvarez talked about permits and deadlines, but her words bounced past me. The bees moved calmly among the basil flowers. I wished I could borrow their calm, yet every orange mark looked like a warning flare.

2 At the meeting, I carried a jar of garden soil to the microphone. My note card listed facts: the garden supplied food, shade, and a place for neighbors to meet. Still, my voice sounded small when I began. Then I set the jar on the table. Its earthy smell rose between the rows of chairs. Would the council members remember this place if they could smell it? I stopped reading the card and told them about Mr. Chen picking peppers for his soup.

3 After the meeting, rain began tapping the windows. One council member asked to hold the jar. Another studied the orange Xs on the map. I watched their faces instead of the clock. Maybe the garden was no longer just an empty lot to them. When the vote came, the council delayed the parking plan and asked for other locations. I walked outside into the rain. Cold drops. Dark clouds. Green leaves. For the first time that week, the garden looked strong.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the image of the orange Xs as “warning flare[s]” reveal the narrator’s first response to the parking plan?

2. Why does the author have the narrator place the jar on the table and describe its smell?

3. What does the question in paragraph 2 reveal about the narrator’s thinking?

4. How do the three sentence fragments near the end affect the passage’s mood and show the narrator’s changed view?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a brief paragraph about a place you care about. Include one sensory detail, one question, and exactly three sentence fragments in a row to show a speaker’s thoughts changing and leading to an action or decision.

Craft Shows Change

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that reveal the narrator's feelings about the garden. Circle the only question in the passage, then number the three sentence fragments in the final paragraph 1, 2, and 3 to see how the author shows a change in the narrator's thoughts. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the image of the orange Xs as "warning flare[s]" reveal the narrator's first response to the parking plan?	**It shows that the narrator feels alarmed and fears that the garden will be destroyed.**
2	Why does the author have the narrator place the jar on the table and describe its smell?	**The sensory detail helps the council connect to the garden personally, not just through facts.**
3	What does the question in paragraph 2 reveal about the narrator's thinking?	**The narrator wonders whether smelling the soil will help the council remember and value the garden.**
4	How do the three sentence fragments near the end affect the passage's mood and show the narrator's changed view?	**They slow the ending and focus attention on the rain and plants, creating a hopeful mood that shows the narrator now sees the garden as strong.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

When I heard that the library might close early each day, I planned to stay quiet. The dusty-paper smell in the stacks made me remember the afternoons I had spent there. Would anyone speak for this room? Quiet tables. Warm lamps. Open books. I signed up to speak at the school board meeting.

Accept reasonable evidence-based interpretations of the narrator's worry, hope, and changing view. For the marking task, students should identify two feeling details, circle "Would the council members remember this place if they could smell it?" and number "Cold drops," "Dark clouds," and "Green leaves."