The Windy Show

Notice how a changing setting shapes a character's choices.

RL.4.3 "Describe in depth a character's thoughts, words and/or actions, the setting or event(s) in a story or drama, drawing on specific details to analyze their interaction over the course of the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline Nia's words or thoughts about where to perform. Circle details that show how the wind changes what she does.

The Frog and the Wind

1. On Saturday, Nia carried a paper puppet theater into the park. She had painted a blue river across its cardboard back wall. "We have to set it beside the pond," she told her brother, Eli. "The river will look real there." A light wind tugged at the theater, but Nia held it steady. She imagined the crowd laughing when her frog puppet made its first leap.

2. Then the wind grew stronger. It bent the cardboard wall and sent the frog puppet rolling toward the pond. Eli caught it just before it reached the water. "Let's move under the picnic shelter," he said. Nia shook her head. From there, the crowd would not see the pond behind her painted river. But another gust tore a corner of the wall, and Nia's stomach tightened.

3. Nia picked up the torn corner. "You're right. We need a place that won't blow away," she told Eli. They carried the theater under the shelter and set it against a heavy picnic table. Without the pond in view, Nia worried that the story would feel plain. Then Eli tapped the table like falling rain. Nia made her frog hop through the painted river, and the watching children tapped along.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why does Nia first want to perform beside the pond? Use a detail from the story.

2. How does the stronger wind affect the theater and Nia's feelings?

3. How do Eli's words and actions help change Nia's plan?

4. How does moving under the shelter change the show? Explain what Nia and Eli do there.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine Nia and Eli must perform in a noisy school hallway instead. In 3 or 4 sentences, describe how the new setting affects Nia and how she and Eli change the show.

ANSWER KEY

The Windy Show

GRADE 4 · RL.4.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline Nia's words or thoughts about where to perform. Circle details that show how the wind changes what she does. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why does Nia first want to perform beside the pond? Use a detail from the story.	**She wants the real pond behind her painted river so the river in the show will look real.**
2	How does the stronger wind affect the theater and Nia's feelings?	**The wind bends the cardboard wall and tears a corner. Nia's stomach tightens as she sees the show is in trouble.**
3	How do Eli's words and actions help change Nia's plan?	**Eli catches the puppet and suggests the shelter. After another gust tears the theater, Nia agrees to move there.**
4	How does moving under the shelter change the show? Explain what Nia and Eli do there.	**The audience can no longer see the pond behind the painted river. Eli taps like falling rain, and Nia makes the frog hop through the painted river.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The school hallway rang with footsteps, and Nia worried no one would hear the frog's story. Eli suggested moving the theater beside a quiet classroom door. Nia agreed and made the frog leap in big, clear motions. The children followed the action even when other students hurried past.

Accept answers that connect specific setting details to Nia's thoughts or actions. For Your Turn, look for a new hallway detail and a believable change to the show, not a retelling of the park performance.