Room for Ideas

Trace a theme through a character's choices.

RL.5.2 "Analyze how the theme is reflected in the text, including but not limited to poems, stories and dramas, and cite relevant implicit and explicit evidence to support thinking."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle Lina's words about Omar's idea. Then underline two later actions that show how her thinking changes and help reveal a theme.

The Shadow Play

1. On Friday, Lina's class built a shadow play for the school fair. Lina had planned every scene: a paper fox would cross a forest, find a lantern, and walk home. When Omar offered to make a paper turtle, Lina shook her head. "There isn't room," she said, pinning her neat drawings to the curtain. Omar set his turtle on the windowsill and helped cut out trees instead.

2. During rehearsal, a fan blew the lantern cutout behind a stack of chairs. The fox stood alone on the white sheet while the audience of classmates waited. Lina searched the floor, but the next scene was about to begin. Omar lifted his turtle between the lamp and sheet. Its round shadow moved slowly toward the fox. "Maybe it knows the way home," Omar whispered.

3. Lina paused, then moved the fox beside the turtle. Omar guided them across the forest while Lina made the trees sway. Their classmates leaned forward as the two shadows reached the edge of the sheet together. After rehearsal, Lina taped the turtle into her plan and wrote Omar's name beside hers. She left an empty space at the bottom of the page for any new idea someone might bring tomorrow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What theme about working with others does Lina's story suggest? Give one detail from the beginning and one from the end that support it.

2. How does Omar's choice during rehearsal help develop the theme? Use a detail about what he does and a detail about Lina's response.

3. What does the classmates' reaction to the new scene suggest? Explain how their reaction helps show the theme.

4. Compare Lina's words, “There isn't room,” with the empty space on her plan at the end. What change do these details show?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a later rehearsal. In 3 to 4 sentences, invent another classmate's idea, show how Lina responds, and explain how your new moment supports the story's theme using one detail from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Room for Ideas

GRADE 5 · RL.5.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle Lina's words about Omar's idea. Then underline two later actions that show how her thinking changes and help reveal a theme. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What theme about working with others does Lina's story suggest? Give one detail from the beginning and one from the end that support it.	**Listening to others can improve a shared project. At first Lina says there is no room for Omar's turtle, but by the end she adds it to her plan.**
2	How does Omar's choice during rehearsal help develop the theme? Use a detail about what he does and a detail about Lina's response.	**Omar uses the turtle when the lantern goes missing, giving the fox a companion. Lina moves the fox beside it, showing that she is willing to use his idea.**
3	What does the classmates' reaction to the new scene suggest? Explain how their reaction helps show the theme.	**The classmates lean forward as the fox and turtle travel together, suggesting that Omar's addition makes the scene interesting. His idea helps the class's play.**
4	Compare Lina's words, "There isn't room," with the empty space on her plan at the end. What change do these details show?	**Lina first refuses Omar's idea because it does not fit her plan. Later, she leaves room for new ideas, showing that she has become more open to others' contributions.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the next rehearsal, Mei suggested a paper bridge for the fox and turtle. Lina asked Mei to show her where it could fit, and they cut out the bridge together. This shows that listening to others can make a shared story better. Lina's response fits the passage because she left space on her plan for another person's idea.

Accept themes about listening, sharing ideas, or making a project better together when supported by relevant passage details. For Part 3, the invented moment should fit Lina's changed behavior and include evidence from the passage.