

Fixing the Birdhouse

Notice how dialogue and description show a character's response.

5W3.b "Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue and description, to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each line of dialogue. Circle two descriptions that show how Maya feels or acts after the birdhouse is damaged.

The Windy Fair

- ① On Saturday, Maya carried her homemade birdhouse to the park science fair. Its blue paint shone in the sun, and a tiny red door sat above the perch. Near the judging table, a gust of wind tipped the birdhouse from her hands. It hit the grass with a sharp thump, and one side panel cracked.
- ② Maya stared at the crack, and her cheeks felt hot. "I worked on that all week," she whispered. Her friend Luis knelt beside her. "The judges have not arrived yet," he said. Maya took a slow breath and opened her repair kit. Although her hands shook at first, she spread glue along the broken edge and held the panel still.
- ③ Ms. Chen stopped at Maya's table just as the glue began to dry. Maya pointed to the repaired panel. "The wind knocked it over, but I fixed it," she explained. Ms. Chen smiled. "You noticed a problem and kept working." Maya's shoulders relaxed. When a child asked about the red door, Maya lifted the birdhouse carefully and described how a bird could enter.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which description shows Maya's first reaction to the cracked birdhouse?

2 What does Maya's whispered dialogue, "I worked on that all week," show about her response to the problem?

3 How do Maya's actions after the birdhouse is damaged show that she responds to the problem? Use two details from the passage.

4 How is Maya's response different at the end of the passage? Use one action or description as evidence.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 5-sentence scene about a character facing a small problem. Include at least one line of dialogue and two descriptions that show how the character responds to the problem.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each line of dialogue. Circle two descriptions that show how Maya feels or acts after the birdhouse is damaged. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which description shows Maya's first reaction to the cracked birdhouse?	Maya stared at the crack, and her cheeks felt hot.
2	What does Maya's whispered dialogue, "I worked on that all week," show about her response to the problem?	It shows that Maya is upset because she spent a long time making the birdhouse.
3	How do Maya's actions after the birdhouse is damaged show that she responds to the problem? Use two details from the passage.	She takes a slow breath, opens her repair kit, spreads glue along the broken edge, and holds the panel still.
4	How is Maya's response different at the end of the passage? Use one action or description as evidence.	At first Maya feels upset and shaky. At the end, her shoulders relax, and she carefully shows the birdhouse to a child.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jordan carried a tray of seedlings to the school garden. A loose stone made him stumble, and soil spilled across the path. "I can clean this up," he said, though his face felt warm. He borrowed a broom, gathered the soil, and replanted the seedlings with careful fingers. When the teacher returned, Jordan stood taller and showed her the neat row.

Accept equivalent evidence-based answers that explain Maya's feelings or actions using details from the passage. For the writing task, check for a clear problem, dialogue, and at least two descriptions that reveal the character's response.