

Light Above Hill

Track what each character knows and what the reader learns first.

8R6 "In literary texts, analyze how the differences between the point of view, perspectives of the characters, the audience, or reader create effects such as mood and tone. (RL) In informational texts..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that reveal Lila's thoughts or observations. Circle details that show what Mr. Bell knows, and write a small 1 beside clues the reader receives before Lila does.

The Observatory Light

- ① At dusk, Lila slipped through the gap in the observatory fence. A pale square of light moved behind the dome's cracked glass. She stopped beside a rusted sign and listened. The town had closed the hilltop building years ago, but she had seen the light twice this week. Maybe, she thought, a hiker had wandered inside. She tightened her scarf and climbed toward the door, ignoring the first drops tapping the steps behind her on gravel far below.
- ② Inside the caretaker's office, Mr. Bell set down the radio handset. A storm warning crackled from its speaker, followed by a report that the hill road was already flooding. He looked toward the dome, where a battery-powered emergency lamp blinked every few seconds. The lamp was meant to keep visitors away from a loose metal panel above the entrance. When Bell noticed fresh footprints crossing the wet path, he grabbed his keys and hurried outside.
- ③ Lila reached the door just as the light vanished. From inside came a long scrape, then a sharp clang. She pressed her palm against the cold handle and called, "Hello?" A voice answered from the path below, "Step away from that door." She spun around. Mr. Bell was climbing toward her through the rain, one hand raised. Lila could not hear his next words over the wind, but she saw him point at the dark shape above the doorway.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does Lila think the light may mean? Use one detail from paragraph 1 to explain her perspective.

2 What does Mr. Bell know about the blinking lamp that Lila does not know?

3 What information does the reader learn in paragraph 2 before Lila reaches the door? Explain why Lila does not seem to act on that information.

4 How does the reader's extra knowledge affect the mood in paragraph 3? Use two details from the passage in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 6 to 8 sentence suspense scene in a new setting. Show two characters interpreting the same event differently, and give the reader one clue that one character misses.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that reveal Lila's thoughts or observations. Circle details that show what Mr. Bell knows, and write a small 1 beside clues the reader receives before Lila does. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Lila think the light may mean? Use one detail from paragraph 1 to explain her perspective.	Lila thinks a hiker may have wandered inside. She sees a light in a building the town closed years ago.
2	What does Mr. Bell know about the blinking lamp that Lila does not know?	He knows the lamp is a warning to keep visitors away from a loose metal panel above the entrance.
3	What information does the reader learn in paragraph 2 before Lila reaches the door? Explain why Lila does not seem to act on that information.	The reader learns that a loose metal panel is above the entrance and that the lamp warns visitors away. Lila does not know the lamp's purpose, so she continues toward the door.
4	How does the reader's extra knowledge affect the mood in paragraph 3? Use two details from the passage in your answer.	It creates a tense, worried mood because the reader knows about the loose panel while Lila stands at the door. The scrape, clang, rain, and Bell pointing above the doorway increase the suspense.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Mara heard a splash in the empty pool and leaned over the fence. "A dog must be stuck," she said. Her brother Tomas studied the ripples and said the water was too still for an animal. Beside Tomas, a sign read, "Drain cover broken," but Mara was watching the water. Tomas saw the sign but did not mention it. When a second splash struck the deep end, Mara reached for the gate latch. Tomas caught her sleeve as the pool lights flickered beneath the water.

Accept reasonable paraphrases supported by details from the passage. For the final question, students should identify that the reader knows the panel is dangerous before Lila does and connect that difference to suspense, tension, or worry.