The Tangled Kite

Notice how a writer builds a story through place, events, and actions.

3.3.W.1 "Students will write narratives incorporating: • setting • plot • characters • characterization"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle two details that show where or when the story takes place, underline two actions that reveal what Maya is like, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside the sentences that show the kite getting stuck, coming free, and flying again.

Maya's Kite

1 On a windy Saturday morning, Maya and her grandpa carried a kite to the wide field behind their apartment building. Tall grass brushed Maya's knees. She had made the kite from red paper and thin sticks, but she kept checking its knots. 'What if it falls apart?' she asked. Grandpa held the string and said, 'We can fix what breaks.' Maya took a deep breath and lifted the kite.

2 A strong gust pulled the kite into a small tree at the edge of the field. Its tail caught on a low branch. Maya's cheeks grew hot. She wanted to tug the string hard, but she saw that the paper might rip. 'Let's stop and think,' she said. Grandpa nodded. Maya found a long fallen stick and gently raised the branch while Grandpa loosened the tail.

3 When the tail slipped free, the kite landed softly in the grass. One corner had a tiny tear. Maya used a bit of tape from Grandpa's pocket to mend it. Then she ran across the field, and the kite rose above the tree. 'You saved it by slowing down,' Grandpa said. Maya smiled and handed him the string so he could have a turn.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the wind help cause the kite's problem?

2. What does Maya do before the kite flies that shows she is careful?

3. How do Maya and Grandpa get the kite free?

4. How does Maya act differently at the end than at the start? Use one detail from each part.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five- or six-sentence story about a character who faces a problem in a place you choose. Show what happens first, next, and last, and reveal what your character is like through an action or words.

ANSWER KEY

The Tangled Kite

GRADE 3 · 3.3.W.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle two details that show where or when the story takes place, underline two actions that reveal what Maya is like, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside the sentences that show the kite getting stuck, coming free, and flying again. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the wind help cause the kite's problem?	**A strong gust pulls the kite into a tree, where its tail catches on a branch.**
2	What does Maya do before the kite flies that shows she is careful?	**She keeps checking the kite's knots.**
3	How do Maya and Grandpa get the kite free?	**Maya gently raises the branch with a fallen stick while Grandpa loosens the tail.**
4	How does Maya act differently at the end than at the start? Use one detail from each part.	**At the start, Maya worries that the kite might fall apart. At the end, she smiles and shares the string with Grandpa after helping fix the kite.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On a rainy afternoon, Leo waited inside the busy library with his little sister, Ana. Ana could not find the book she had picked for bedtime. Leo wanted to leave, but he noticed that Ana looked ready to cry. 'Let's check the return cart together,' he said. They searched the cart until Leo spotted the book beneath a stack of picture books. Ana hugged him, and Leo carried the book to the desk with a grin.

For the marking job, accept setting details such as Saturday morning or the field. Accept actions that show Maya's worry, care, patience, or kindness, and event numbers placed beside the kite catching, slipping free, and rising again.