Titles After Dark

Use italics to distinguish complete works from shorter pieces.

9.5.W.10 "Students will write using correct italics mechanics."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each italicized title and underline each title in quotation marks. Compare how the two styles show whether a title names a complete work or a shorter piece.

A Festival of Night Stories

1. On Monday, our class turned the library into a one-night festival of student-made stories. I placed Maya's novel, *After the Floodlights*, beside her short story, "The Window That Stayed Bright." Both followed a teenager who photographed empty streets, but each needed a different sign. The novel filled a whole binder; the story fit on six pages. Under the lamps, a visitor could spot the slanted letters in the novel's title before picking it up. That small choice helped our display treat a full book differently from a piece inside a collection.

2. Across the room, Theo screened his film, *Night Bus to Harbor Street*, on a laptop. Between showings, he played an episode of his video series called "Last Stop." The film followed one driver through an entire shift; the episode lasted just four minutes and focused on a lost umbrella. On the next table, visitors found *East Hall Review*, our class magazine, opened to an article titled "Who Keeps the Streetlights On?" Its writer had interviewed a city electrician, then sketched the tools tucked into a repair truck. Several readers stayed to compare the screen stories with the printed one.

3. Near the exit, Lila hung her painting, *Corner Store at Midnight*, above a small speaker. The speaker played *Map of the Dark*, an album our music club recorded for the festival. One track, "Porch Light," used a bicycle bell to mark the beat. A visitor asked why some titles leaned while others sat inside quotation marks. Lila pointed to the whole painting and the complete album, then to the single track on its playlist. By closing time, our signs had become more than labels: they showed how each piece fit into the larger night.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write one sentence that names Maya's novel and short story. Format both titles correctly.

2. Rewrite this screening note with correct title formatting: Theo showed the film Night Bus to Harbor Street and the episode Last Stop.

3. Write a sentence that tells readers which magazine contains the article about streetlights. Format both titles correctly.

4. Rewrite this label with correct title formatting: The album Map of the Dark includes the track Porch Light.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about an imaginary school exhibit on a theme other than nighttime. Invent a title for one complete work and one shorter piece within a larger work, and format both titles correctly.

ANSWER KEY

Titles After Dark

GRADE 9 · 9.5.W.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each italicized title and underline each title in quotation marks. Compare how the two styles show whether a title names a complete work or a shorter piece. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write one sentence that names Maya's novel and short story. Format both titles correctly.	**Maya wrote the novel *After the Floodlights* and the short story "The Window That Stayed Bright."**
2	Rewrite this screening note with correct title formatting: Theo showed the film Night Bus to Harbor Street and the episode Last Stop.	**Theo showed the film *Night Bus to Harbor Street* and the episode "Last Stop."**
3	Write a sentence that tells readers which magazine contains the article about streetlights. Format both titles correctly.	**The article "Who Keeps the Streetlights On?" appears in *East Hall Review*.**
4	Rewrite this label with correct title formatting: The album Map of the Dark includes the track Porch Light.	**The album *Map of the Dark* includes the track "Porch Light."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our exhibit explored local gardens. I displayed a book called *Seeds on the Roof* beside an issue of *Schoolyard Science*. Visitors read the magazine article "Tomatoes Above Traffic" and shared their own planting ideas.

Accept varied sentence wording in Part 2 if the titles match the passage and complete works are italicized while shorter pieces use quotation marks. In Part 3, check that the invented shorter piece belongs to a named larger work.