

Kites in Rain

Study how a short fiction scene uses plot, dialogue, and sensory details.

7.11.A “compose literary texts such as personal narratives, fiction, and poetry using genre characteristics and craft;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two sensory details, circle each line of dialogue, and number four plot moments: the problem, the offer of help, Maya's decision to share the tape, and the ending. These choices show how a fiction writer builds a character's experience.

The Red Kite

- ① On the morning of the neighborhood kite festival, Maya found her red kite folded beside the door, its paper skin torn by last night's rain. She had spent three weeks painting gold stars across it. Outside, wind snapped the flag on Mr. Chen's porch, as if it were laughing at her. Maya pressed one finger against the rip and felt her stomach tighten. "I can fix it," she told her little brother, though the words sounded thinner than the paper.
- ② At the park, bright kites already climbed above the baseball field. Maya carried hers low, hiding the tear against her jacket. When the contest judge called for the first launch, her brother tugged her sleeve. "Use my tape," he said, offering a crumpled roll from his pocket. Maya almost refused. Then she noticed a girl nearby holding a kite with one broken stick. Maya tore two strips, repaired her own kite, and handed the rest to the girl. The wind smelled like cut grass and rain.
- ③ When Maya released the string, the kite dipped once, then lifted. The gold stars flashed whenever it turned toward the sun. Beside her, the other girl's blue kite rose too, wobbling but steady. Maya laughed, surprised by the sound. She had not won the contest, but her kite stayed in the sky until the clouds turned peach. Walking home, she gave the tape roll back to her brother. "Next year," she said, "we will bring extra."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How does the first paragraph introduce Maya's problem? Use one detail from the passage.

2 What does Maya's brother's dialogue reveal about him and his role in the story?

3 How does the sensory detail "The wind smelled like cut grass and rain" help create the setting?

4 How does the ending show that Maya has changed from the beginning of the story?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two sensory details, circle each line of dialogue, and number four plot moments: the problem, the offer of help, Maya's decision to share the tape, and the ending. These choices show how a fiction writer builds a character's experience. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the first paragraph introduce Maya's problem? Use one detail from the passage.	Maya's red kite is torn by rain, even though she spent three weeks painting gold stars on it.
2	What does Maya's brother's dialogue reveal about him and his role in the story?	His offer, "Use my tape," shows that he is helpful and gives Maya a way to repair the kite.
3	How does the sensory detail "The wind smelled like cut grass and rain" help create the setting?	It makes the outdoor park setting feel fresh and rainy.
4	How does the ending show that Maya has changed from the beginning of the story?	She begins worried and hides her torn kite. After accepting and sharing help in paragraph 2, she enjoys flying and plans to bring extra tape next year.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At dusk, Inez wheeled her science fair model onto the school patio, where wet leaves stuck to the bricks. Her tiny wind turbine was supposed to spin when the judges arrived, but its blades hung still in the calm air. She gripped the poster board until its corners bent.

"You could borrow my battery fan," Malik said. Inez almost refused. She wanted every part of the display to be her own work. Then she loosened her grip and nodded. Malik set the fan beside the model, and its blades began to turn.

When the judges stopped, Inez explained that the fan supplied the moving air for this demonstration. She thanked Malik instead of hiding his help. Next time, she would plan for calm weather and ask for advice sooner.

Accept supported passage answers. For the fictional scene, require three paragraphs, 100-140 words, setting, problem, dialogue, a sensory detail and an ending choice or change.