

Rainy Garden Rescue

Compare characters through their actions and interactions.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3 "Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline actions or words that show how Mina and Theo respond differently. Circle details that show them working together.

Signs in the Rain

- ① On Saturday, Mina and Theo arrived at the school garden to build signs for the new vegetable beds. Dark clouds gathered above the fence. Mina spread paints across a picnic table and began sketching bright carrots. Theo checked the sky, then carried the paint jars under the tool shed roof. "We can finish after the rain," he said. Mina frowned but followed him.
- ② Rain tapped the shed roof while the two students waited. Theo opened a map of the garden and pointed to a muddy path. "The water may reach the lettuce," he said. Mina studied the map, then grabbed two empty buckets. "Let's protect it now," she replied. Theo hesitated because the rain was falling hard, but Mina showed him the covered walkway. They followed the walkway to the lettuce bed and used the buckets to carry puddled water away from it.
- ③ When they returned to the shed, Mina painted a sign that read, "Lettuce Lives Here." Theo used a ruler to make neat arrows pointing toward each bed. Mina laughed when one arrow pointed at the compost pile. Theo laughed too and helped her repaint it. By noon, the rain had stopped. Their signs were colorful and clear, and the lettuce was safe. Mina said her quick idea started the rescue. Theo said their teamwork finished it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Compare Mina's and Theo's first reactions to the dark clouds. What does each character do?

2 How do Mina and Theo respond differently when they learn the lettuce may get wet?

3 Compare the jobs Mina and Theo do after they return to the shed. Use one detail about each character.

4 How do Mina and Theo react to the arrow that points at the compost pile? What does their interaction show?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences comparing the garden setting at the beginning and at noon. Use at least two details from the passage, and explain how the weather affected where Mina and Theo worked.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline actions or words that show how Mina and Theo respond differently. Circle details that show them working together. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Compare Mina's and Theo's first reactions to the dark clouds. What does each character do?	Mina spreads paints across the table and begins sketching carrots; she frowns when she must move. Theo checks the sky and carries the paint jars under the shed roof.
2	How do Mina and Theo respond differently when they learn the lettuce may get wet?	Mina quickly grabs buckets and wants to act, while Theo hesitates because the rain is falling hard.
3	Compare the jobs Mina and Theo do after they return to the shed. Use one detail about each character.	Mina paints a colorful lettuce sign, while Theo uses a ruler to make neat arrows for the beds.
4	How do Mina and Theo react to the arrow that points at the compost pile? What does their interaction show?	Both laugh, and Theo helps Mina repaint the arrow. Their interaction shows that they cooperate to fix a mistake.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the beginning, dark clouds gather over the fence. By noon, the rain has stopped and colorful, clear signs are ready. The threat of rain moves Mina and Theo from the picnic table to the shed, where they later finish their signs.

Accept comparisons that use accurate details about both characters or both settings. Students may use different relevant details if they clearly explain a similarity, difference, or effect on the characters' actions.