

Three Text Shapes

See how story, poem and drama are built.

4.RL.2.B "Identify the characteristics of different genres of literary texts (e.g., drama, poems, stories) and refer to the structural elements of each."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a setting detail in A. Box the four lines in each stanza of B. Circle the speaker names and bracketed stage directions in C.

Three Library Moments

Text A: A Place to Read: a story

Rain began as Mara reached the library. She wanted to finish her book, but the window seats were full. A librarian showed her a bench behind the shelves. Mara settled there. By the time the rain stopped, she had reached the ending.

Text B: Library Rain: a poem

Stanza 1

Rain taps softly on the glass.
Books wait quietly in rows.
Outside, silver puddles shine.
Inside, one small story grows.

Stanza 2

Pages turn like tiny sails.
Words can carry us away.
Rain keeps drumming on the roof.
We explore and choose to stay.

Text C: The Dry Bench: a drama

[In a library, Leo points toward the window.]

LEO: That seat is taken. Where can we read?

NIA: There is a bench behind the shelves.

[They walk toward the bench.]

LEO: We can both fit here.

NIA: Good. Let us open our books.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How does A tell a story? Name its problem and resolution.

2 Count B's stanzas and poem lines. How does its structure differ from A?

3 How do speaker names and stage directions help performers of C?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a rainy-day discovery drama, then explain its structure.

Write your drama

Include a bracketed stage direction and at least four connected dialogue turns. Start each turn on a new line with a capitalized speaker name.

Name the structure

Name two structural elements in your drama. Give an example and explain the job of each.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a setting detail in A. Box the four lines in each stanza of B. Circle the speaker names and bracketed stage directions in C. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does A tell a story? Name its problem and resolution.	A narrator tells events about Mara. She needs a place to read; she finds a bench and finishes the book.
2	Count B's stanzas and poem lines. How does its structure differ from A?	B has two stanzas with four poem lines each, eight lines total. A is a paragraph of sentences; its printed line wraps are not separate poem lines.
3	How do speaker names and stage directions help performers of C?	Speaker names identify who says each dialogue turn. Stage directions tell performers the setting and actions, such as walking toward the bench.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

[In a rainy park, Ava points under a leaf.]

AVA: Something is moving there!

MATEO: I see a tiny frog.

AVA: Let us watch quietly.

MATEO: It is hopping toward the pond.

Structural elements: Capitalized speaker names tell us who speaks, such as AVA. The bracketed stage direction tells the setting and an action: Ava points under a leaf.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT NOTES

These are original classroom texts. Count eight poem lines, excluding the stanza labels. Accept supported descriptions of each genre. Require a bracketed direction, at least four connected dialogue turns on separate lines, capitalized speaker names, and two structural elements explained with examples. Accept varied plots and supported wording.