Clues in the Fog

Notice how narrative techniques reveal character, setting, and plot.

5.T.T.1.a "Analyze the use of narrative techniques to present ideas, design texts, and convey information about characters, setting, and plot. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that help you picture the setting, circle dialogue or thoughts that reveal character, and number three events that move the plot forward.

The Clock Tower Clue

1. Maya tightened the straps on her rain boots and stepped onto the porch. The town square was usually loud on Saturday mornings, but today the fog muffled every sound. She held a paper map for the charity scavenger hunt. "The first clue is near the clock tower," her brother Leo said. Maya looked at the gray street and wished she had brought a flashlight.

2. At the tower, a wet flyer flapped against the door. Maya read the clue aloud: "Find the place where thirsty birds drink." Leo pointed toward the fountain, but Maya noticed a narrow trail of blue chalk marks leading behind the bakery. "The map shows a fountain in the park," she said. "The chalk may be from another team." Leo shrugged, and they hurried on.

3. The park fountain splashed beside a row of empty benches. A metal bowl sat under the rim, filled with clean water and sunflower seeds. Inside the bowl lay the next clue. Maya laughed, her shoulders loosening. The fog began to lift, and the clock tower appeared across the square. "We can see where we're going now," she said. Leo grinned and unfolded the map.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the fog detail in the first paragraph affect the setting and reveal Maya's feelings?

2. What does Maya's explanation about the chalk marks reveal about her character? Use a detail from the dialogue.

3. How does the author use the flyer, the chalk marks, and the bowl to move the plot forward?

4. How do the details about the fountain help you picture the setting and understand the clue?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence continuation of the story. Include one sensory setting detail, one line of dialogue that reveals a character trait, and one action that moves the scavenger hunt plot forward.

ANSWER KEY

Clues in the Fog

GRADE 5 · 5.T.T.1.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that help you picture the setting, circle dialogue or thoughts that reveal character, and number three events that move the plot forward. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the fog detail in the first paragraph affect the setting and reveal Maya's feelings?	**The fog makes the town square quiet and uncertain. Maya seems uneasy or unprepared because she wishes she had brought a flashlight.**
2	What does Maya's explanation about the chalk marks reveal about her character? Use a detail from the dialogue.	**It shows that Maya is careful and thoughtful. She says the chalk may be from another team and follows the map instead.**
3	How does the author use the flyer, the chalk marks, and the bowl to move the plot forward?	**The flyer gives the first clue, the chalk marks create a possible wrong path, and the bowl contains the next clue after Maya and Leo choose the fountain.**
4	How do the details about the fountain help you picture the setting and understand the clue?	**The splashing fountain, metal bowl, water, and sunflower seeds show a park fountain where thirsty birds could drink.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Maya traced the new clue to the old bandstand at the edge of the square. Rain dripped from its red roof, tapping like tiny drums. "Listen," Maya said, "the clue mentions music, so we should look near the stage." Leo lifted a loose floorboard and found a small envelope underneath.

Accept reasonable responses that connect a narrative technique to what it reveals about character, setting, or plot. For Part 3, accept any four-sentence continuation with a sensory detail, meaningful dialogue, and an action that advances the hunt.