Maya's Map Mishap

Trace a character's challenge, choices, and lesson.

4.RL.1 "Key Ideas and Plot Details Summarize the theme of stories, dramas, or poetry, including the thematic topic (e.g., courage, loyalty, family) and how characters respond to challenges..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the event that causes Maya's problem and the event that solves it. Circle Maya's words, actions, or thoughts that show how she responds, then number 1, 2, and 3 beside the beginning, middle, and end events.

The Torn River

1. On Thursday, Maya carried her cardboard river map to the school library. Her class would use it during the town-history fair that afternoon. Near the door, a gust from an open window lifted the map. It slid across the floor and caught on a chair leg. A long tear split the paper river. Maya stared at it, thinking, "Everyone will see that I ruined it."

2. At first, Maya wanted to hide the map in her backpack. Then she remembered how carefully her partner, Luis, had painted the tiny boats. "I need to fix this," Maya said. She found clear tape, blue paper, and scissors in the art bin. Luis arrived and offered to help. Together, they placed blue paper behind the tear and taped the edges. The river looked bumpy, but it stayed together.

3. When visitors gathered around the display, Maya pointed to the repaired river. She explained that the blue patch showed where a spring flood had changed the town's banks long ago. The patch was not part of the original plan, yet it helped the map tell a clearer story. After the fair, Maya thanked Luis. She felt proud because she had faced a problem instead of giving up.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the central conflict in the story? Use one detail from the passage to explain.

2. How is the conflict resolved? Describe two events in the order they happen.

3. How do Maya's thoughts, words, and actions show that she changes during the story? Use specific details.

4. What theme topic is best supported by the story? Explain how Maya's response to the challenge supports that topic.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a new problem for Maya after the fair. Write exactly four sentences that show the conflict, Maya's thought or words, her action, the resolution, and a theme topic.

ANSWER KEY

Maya's Map Mishap

GRADE 4 · 4.RL.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the event that causes Maya's problem and the event that solves it. Circle Maya's words, actions, or thoughts that show how she responds, then number 1, 2, and 3 beside the beginning, middle, and end events. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the central conflict in the story? Use one detail from the passage to explain.	**Maya's map tears before the town-history fair. A gust lifts the map, and it catches on a chair leg, splitting the paper river.**
2	How is the conflict resolved? Describe two events in the order they happen.	**Maya finds tape, blue paper, and scissors. Then she and Luis place paper behind the tear and tape the edges together. Accept equivalent accurate descriptions supported by the repair events.**
3	How do Maya's thoughts, words, and actions show that she changes during the story? Use specific details.	**At first, Maya thinks everyone will see that she ruined the map and wants to hide it. Later, she says, "I need to fix this," gathers supplies, and feels proud after facing the problem.**
4	What theme topic is best supported by the story? Explain how Maya's response to the challenge supports that topic.	**Perseverance is a theme topic. Maya does not give up after the map tears. She works with Luis to repair it and shares the repaired map at the fair. Accept teamwork or another theme topic supported by specific story evidence.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the next fair, Maya saw that the labels had blown off her display. "I can make new ones," she told Luis, though she worried that visitors would be confused. She used scrap paper to write clear labels and taped them beside each part of the map. The labels helped visitors understand, showing the theme topic of perseverance.

For Your Turn, accept any coherent new problem for Maya after the fair. Check exactly four sentences showing the conflict, her thought or words, an action, a resolution and a theme topic supported by her response. The new problem need not involve a torn map or its repair.