Garden Plot Turns

Trace how character choices shape events.

6.RL.1.D "Explain how static and dynamic characters impact the plot."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a character's action or thought that is different from earlier in the story. Circle an action or thought that repeats, then number the plot events affected by these choices in order.

The Shared Garden

1 On Saturday, Maya and her neighbor Theo cleaned the overgrown garden behind their apartment building. The landlord had promised a small bench if the space looked welcoming by Monday. Maya wanted to clear the path first, but Theo shrugged. "People will just drop trash again," he said. He pulled weeds only when Maya handed him a tool. Near the gate, Maya found a faded notice about a community meeting. She tucked it into her pocket and kept working.

2 At home, Maya reread the notice. It said residents could request help for shared spaces, but only if someone spoke at the meeting. At first, Maya planned to avoid the meeting because she disliked speaking to adults. Then she pictured children tripping on the broken path. On Sunday, she wrote a short request and practiced it aloud. Theo laughed when he saw her notes. "A bench will not fix anything," he said. Maya did not argue. She asked him to carry the bag of weeds outside, and he did.

3 At Monday's meeting, Maya read her request, even though her voice shook. The residents voted to lend tools and repair the path the next weekend. Maya then made a bright sign that read, "Garden Tools Return Here," and taped it beside the gate. Theo carried the weeds to the curb, but he still said the cleanup would not last. When neighbors arrived Saturday, Maya showed them the sign and the cleared path. The workday began with people borrowing gloves and choosing jobs.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does Maya plan to do at first, and what new action does she take later?

2. How does Maya's action at the Monday meeting affect later events in the plot?

3. Which repeated belief or statement shows that Theo does not change? How does that belief shape his role in the cleanup?

4. Compare Maya and Theo. How does each character's response to the garden problem affect the plot outcome?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly 3 sentences about a problem in a shared place, such as a park, classroom, or library. Show one character changing and one character staying the same, then explain how their different responses affect what happens.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Plot Turns

GRADE 6 · 6.RL.1.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline a character's action or thought that is different from earlier in the story. Circle an action or thought that repeats, then number the plot events affected by these choices in order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Maya plan to do at first, and what new action does she take later?	**At first, Maya plans to avoid the community meeting. Later, she writes a request and reads it at the meeting.**
2	How does Maya's action at the Monday meeting affect later events in the plot?	**Her request leads residents to vote to lend tools and repair the path the next weekend.**
3	Which repeated belief or statement shows that Theo does not change? How does that belief shape his role in the cleanup?	**Theo continues to doubt that the garden will stay clean or that a bench will help. He helps with small tasks when asked, but he does not lead the effort.**
4	Compare Maya and Theo. How does each character's response to the garden problem affect the plot outcome?	**Maya changes from avoiding the meeting to speaking up, which helps begin the repair workday. Theo remains doubtful and participates only in limited chores, so he does not drive the solution. Accept equivalent evidence of Maya's shift and Theo's continued skepticism, linked to plot events.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

When the library's donation box tore, Rosa stopped waiting for someone else and asked the principal for tape. Devin kept saying the box was not his problem, although he held the door while Rosa repaired it. Because Rosa changed from waiting to acting, the box was fixed before the book drive, while Devin's unchanged attitude limited his role.

For Your Turn, check exactly three sentences about a problem in a shared place, with one changing and one static character. Their different responses must affect the scene's events or outcome. Accept any appropriate characters and supported plot effects; Maya and Theo are not required.