Where Stories Stay

Use details from a story to support an interpretation.

11-12.W.9 "Draw relevant evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, narrative and creative texts, and research..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that suggest the cassettes need local access, and circle two details that suggest a risk in moving them. Number one underlined detail and one circled detail that could support different choices for Eli.

The Address Label

1 At five o'clock, the neighborhood library smelled of wet wool and packing tape. Eli had been told to stack the oral-history cassettes in a carton marked HOLD FOR REVIEW. The branch would close that evening, and the city planned to move its books to a larger building across town. No one had decided where the cassettes would go. Each held an interview with someone who had lived near the old river docks, including Eli's grandfather. Mrs. Vale, the librarian, checked every label twice, though the truck driver kept calling from the curb.

2 When the driver stepped inside, Mrs. Vale lifted three cassettes from the carton and slipped them into a cloth bag. Eli noticed the names written on their cases: a dockworker, a baker, and his grandfather. 'They should stay where people can find them,' she said, closing the bag. Then she looked at the city's inventory sheet and added their numbers beside the words *moved for safekeeping*. She did not write down the bag's destination. Mr. Chen, the custodian, set a locked cabinet key on the counter, but Mrs. Vale pushed it back toward him.

3 Outside, the truck's engine rattled against the window. Eli knew the larger building had a listening room; he also knew his grandfather would not take two buses to reach it. Mrs. Vale handed Eli the cloth bag and a blank address label. 'You know the families better than I do,' she said. He could write the larger building's address, or he could write the address of the neighborhood center, which opened only three afternoons a week. Eli uncapped the pen. On the label, he wrote the center's street number, then stopped before writing the street name.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the carton label suggest about the city's plans for the cassettes? Use one other detail from the first paragraph to support your answer.

2. How could Mrs. Vale's inventory entry support one view of her actions, while the missing destination supports another?

3. What advantage does each possible destination offer, and what detail limits that advantage?

4. What does Eli's unfinished address label suggest about his decision? Support your interpretation with a detail from the final paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one paragraph proposing what Eli should do next. Use two distinct details from the story as evidence, and explain how each supports your proposal.

Where Stories Stay

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that suggest the cassettes need local access, and circle two details that suggest a risk in moving them. Number one underlined detail and one circled detail that could support different choices for Eli. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the carton label suggest about the city's plans for the cassettes? Use one other detail from the first paragraph to support your answer.	**HOLD FOR REVIEW suggests the city intends to consider what to do with the cassettes before moving them. The first paragraph says no one has decided where they will go.**
2	How could Mrs. Vale's inventory entry support one view of her actions, while the missing destination supports another?	**Recording the cassette numbers suggests she wants to keep track of them. Omitting their destination suggests she may be avoiding oversight.**
3	What advantage does each possible destination offer, and what detail limits that advantage?	**The larger building has a listening room, but Eli's grandfather would not travel two buses to use it. The neighborhood center is closer to the families, but it opens only three afternoons a week.**
4	What does Eli's unfinished address label suggest about his decision? Support your interpretation with a detail from the final paragraph.	**Eli is leaning toward the neighborhood center but has not committed to it. He writes its street number, then stops before writing the street name.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Eli should ask the city to approve a documented loan of the cassettes to the neighborhood center. His grandfather would not take two buses to the larger building, so a nearby location could make the interviews easier for local families to hear. But Mrs. Vale has not written down where she is taking the cassettes. Getting approval and recording their destination would help people find the interviews while keeping track of them.

Accept other defensible proposals, including sending the cassettes to the larger building. Each response should use two accurate, distinct passage details and explain how they support the proposed action.