Taps After Rain

Read a story that moves back in time to reveal a clue.

3.RL.10 "By the end of the year, read and comprehend a variety of literary texts. Read and comprehend grade-appropriate texts with increasing challenge in text difficulty and complexity (e.g., layout, text structure, language/literary features..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 in the order their events happen. Underline the time words that help you decide.

The Tapping Shed

1. At dusk, Mina heard three taps from the garden shed. Tap, tap, tap. Her little brother, Leo, grabbed her sleeve. The shed door was shut. The rain had stopped, and the wind was still. Mina wanted to race inside, but she stayed with Leo. She held up one finger, asking him to listen with her. Three more taps came from behind the door.

2. Earlier that afternoon, Mina had helped Grandpa set a tin cup beneath a small hole in the shed roof. He wanted to find out how much water came through when it rained. Mina had meant to check the cup after supper, but she forgot. Grandpa called the hole a tiny doorway for rain. By late afternoon, a shower had soaked the yard.

3. Now Mina opened the door. A drop slid from the roof hole and struck the cup. Tap. Another drop followed. Leo laughed, then pointed to the little pool spreading beside the cup. Mina moved a larger pail under the hole. "The roof saved a few drops for later," she said. Leo held the flashlight while Mina carried the wet cup to Grandpa.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which paragraph tells what happened first? What words helped you know?

2. What does Mina's choice to stay with Leo tell you about her? Name an action that supports your idea.

3. How does the event from earlier that afternoon help explain the taps at dusk?

4. What does Mina mean when she says the roof "saved a few drops for later"?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences about a new puzzling sound. Begin with the sound, jump back to an earlier clue, then return to explain it. Use time words to show when the events happen.

ANSWER KEY

Taps After Rain

GRADE 3 · 3.RL.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 in the order their events happen. Underline the time words that help you decide. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which paragraph tells what happened first? What words helped you know?	**Paragraph 2 happens first. It begins with "Earlier that afternoon."**
2	What does Mina's choice to stay with Leo tell you about her? Name an action that supports your idea.	**Mina cares about Leo. She stays with him and asks him to listen with her.**
3	How does the event from earlier that afternoon help explain the taps at dusk?	**Mina and Grandpa put a tin cup under the roof hole. Water dripping into the cup made the taps.**
4	What does Mina mean when she says the roof "saved a few drops for later"?	**Water kept dripping from the roof after the rain stopped.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At bedtime, Nia heard a rattle beside her bed. Earlier that day, she had left a marble in an empty pencil box. Now her cat was nudging the box with one paw. Nia took out the marble, and the rattle stopped.

Accept other supported ideas about Mina, such as that she is patient or wants Leo to feel safe. For the open task, look for four sentences with a sound, an earlier clue, and a return to its cause.