Book Fair Lights

Notice how a play is built.

4.RL.5 "Explain major differences between stories, dramas, and poems, and refer to the structural elements of poems and dramas (e.g., casts of characters, settings, descriptions, dialogue, stage directions) when writing or speaking about a text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the cast and setting, circle each speaker label, and number the bracketed stage directions in order. These marks will help you explain how the drama is organized.

The Show Goes On

1. **Cast:** Mina, Theo, and Ms. Vale. **Setting:** A school library, just before the book fair. [Three chairs face an empty rug. Mina holds a paper lantern.] **Mina:** The lights went out right before our show! **Theo:** The windows give us enough light to practice. [He moves a chair beside the rug.] **Ms. Vale:** Let's begin with the scene about the lost kite.

2. [Ms. Vale hands Theo a blue card.] **Theo:** Should I read the poem first? It says, "Over the roof, the red kite flies. / It dips past clouds in windy skies." **Mina:** Those short lines sound good aloud. [Mina lifts the lantern high, then lowers it.] **Ms. Vale:** Now try the scene. Speak to each other, not to the card.

3. **Mina:** My story card says, "Theo turned the lantern toward the rug. He hoped everyone could see the kite." **Theo:** That story tells what I hoped. Our scene shows my words and actions instead. [He turns the lantern toward the rug.] **Ms. Vale:** The show can go on. [The three take their places as the first visitors enter.]

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the cast and setting help you understand the drama before anyone speaks?

2. Choose one bracketed stage direction. What does it tell the actors to do?

3. How does the story card show Theo's part differently from the drama? Use a detail from each.

4. Theo's poem has two short lines marked by a slash. How is the drama around the poem organized differently?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a tiny drama about two new characters solving a different book fair problem. Include a cast, a setting, labeled dialogue, and one bracketed stage direction, then add one sentence explaining how your drama's structure differs from a story or poem.

ANSWER KEY

Book Fair Lights

GRADE 4 · 4.RL.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the cast and setting, circle each speaker label, and number the bracketed stage directions in order. These marks will help you explain how the drama is organized. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the cast and setting help you understand the drama before anyone speaks?	**They name Mina, Theo, and Ms. Vale and place them in a school library before the book fair.**
2	Choose one bracketed stage direction. What does it tell the actors to do?	**Accept any accurate example, such as "[He moves a chair beside the rug.]" It tells the actor playing Theo where to move a chair.**
3	How does the story card show Theo's part differently from the drama? Use a detail from each.	**The story card tells what Theo hoped. The drama uses Theo's labeled speech and a stage direction showing him turn the lantern.**
4	Theo's poem has two short lines marked by a slash. How is the drama around the poem organized differently?	**The drama uses speaker labels for dialogue and brackets for stage directions instead of arranging its words in short poem lines.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Cast: Jo and Kai.
Setting: A table at the book fair.
[Jo looks under the table.]
Jo: The price signs fell down!
Kai: I found them. Let's tape them back up.
[They fix the signs before shoppers arrive.]
Unlike a story, my drama uses speaker labels and stage directions to show the action.

For the stage-direction question, accept any bracketed direction paired with an accurate explanation. For Your Turn, accept a different book fair problem if the drama has all four requested structural elements and the final sentence makes a correct comparison.