Behind the Curtain

Compare two characters through their choices and actions.

5.RL.3 "Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a literary text, drawing on specific details in the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details about Nia's choices and circle two details about Leo's choices, then write the number 1 beside one underlined detail and one circled detail that show a difference between them.

The Rainy Day Show

1. On the morning of the school puppet show, rain drummed on the courtyard benches. The class had planned to perform outside, but now they had to use the narrow library corner. Nia carried each puppet in a labeled bag and checked the script twice. Leo scooped up the cardboard scenery in one arm. "We can make this work," he said, already studying the bookshelves.

2. Inside, Nia measured the space between two shelves and worried that the painted forest would not fit. She folded the scenery neatly and suggested using one tree at a time. Leo wanted to hang every tree from the shelves, but the librarian asked him not to attach anything to the bookshelves. He paused, then arranged the trees against a low wall instead.

3. When the show began, Nia quietly passed puppets to the actors in the right order. Leo noticed that the audience could not see the small pond on the floor, so he held it up behind the stage. Halfway through, a puppet's string tangled. Nia untied it while Leo told a funny story to fill the silence. By the final bow, the audience was laughing and clapping.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do Nia and Leo respond differently when the show moves into the library? Use one detail about each character.

2. How do Nia's and Leo's ideas for the forest scenery differ? What does each do when there is not enough room?

3. During the show, how does each character help the audience follow the story? Use a detail about Nia and a detail about Leo.

4. When the puppet's string tangles, what different jobs do Nia and Leo take on? How do both jobs help the show continue?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine Nia and Leo planning their next puppet show. In 4 to 5 sentences, predict one thing each would do and one way they would work together, using a passage detail about each character to support your ideas.

ANSWER KEY

Behind the Curtain

GRADE 5 · 5.RL.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details about Nia's choices and circle two details about Leo's choices, then write the number 1 beside one underlined detail and one circled detail that show a difference between them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do Nia and Leo respond differently when the show moves into the library? Use one detail about each character.	**Nia checks the script and carries puppets in labeled bags, while Leo grabs the scenery and looks for a way to make the new space work.**
2	How do Nia's and Leo's ideas for the forest scenery differ? What does each do when there is not enough room?	**Nia suggests using one tree at a time. Leo first wants to hang every tree, then places the trees against a low wall when the librarian says he cannot attach them to the shelves.**
3	During the show, how does each character help the audience follow the story? Use a detail about Nia and a detail about Leo.	**Nia passes the puppets to the actors in the right order. Leo lifts the pond so the audience can see it.**
4	When the puppet's string tangles, what different jobs do Nia and Leo take on? How do both jobs help the show continue?	**Nia unties the string so the puppet can be used again. Leo tells a funny story so the audience has something to listen to while she works.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

For their next show, Nia would probably make a list of props because she kept the puppets in labeled bags. Leo might check where the audience will sit because he noticed when they could not see the pond. Both would want the show to go well, but Nia might focus on keeping things in order while Leo looks for problems with the stage. Together, they could check every prop from the audience's seats before the show begins.

Accept other comparisons supported by specific details from the passage. For the open task, look for distinct, reasonable predictions about both characters and a plausible way they would work together.