The Painted Streak

Use story details to support an interpretation.

7.W.9 "Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support written analysis, interpretation, reflection, and research, applying one or more grade 7 standards for Reading Literature or Reading Informational text as needed."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show Lena's first opinion of her drawing, and circle two details that show her opinion changing. Number one detail that helps explain the change.

The Lighthouse Drawing

1. On Friday afternoon, Lena stayed late to finish a poster for the school play. Across the hall, Mr. Ortiz, the custodian, pushed a cart toward the recycling bins. A stack of student sketches leaned against its side, including the paper lighthouse Lena had drawn in September. She had left it on the art room shelf because the blue paint had run. Mr. Ortiz lifted the sketches without looking at them and placed them under a pile of flattened boxes. Lena gripped her poster tube. "He doesn't even know they're ours," she thought.

2. She followed the cart into the lobby, ready to ask for her lighthouse back. A box slipped, and the sketches slid onto the floor. Mr. Ortiz knelt and picked up each page by its edges. "The art room needed that shelf cleared," he said. "I asked if I could save these for the winter display." He showed her a folder on the cart labeled STUDENT WORK, its corners reinforced with tape. Lena looked at the paint streak across her lighthouse and almost asked him to leave that one behind.

3. Mr. Ortiz carried the folder to a glass case near the front doors. Inside, a few student drawings already stood beside name cards he had written by hand. He held up Lena's lighthouse. "The streak makes it look like a storm is coming," he said. Lena had seen only a mistake, but his words made her notice the beam cutting through the dark blue paint. She helped him place the drawing in the case and wrote her name on a card. On Monday, students stopped to look before the first bell.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does Lena first assume Mr. Ortiz plans to do with the sketches? Use a detail from the first paragraph to support your answer.

2. How do Mr. Ortiz's actions in the lobby challenge Lena's assumption? Use two details from the second paragraph.

3. How does Lena's view of the paint streak change? Use one detail from the first paragraph and one from the third.

4. What does the last sentence suggest about the display's effect on other students? Support your inference with two details from the third paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your school is deciding whether to display student art with visible mistakes. Write one paragraph arguing for or against the idea. Use two details from the story as evidence, and explain how each supports your position.

ANSWER KEY

The Painted Streak

GRADE 7 · 7.W.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show Lena's first opinion of her drawing, and circle two details that show her opinion changing. Number one detail that helps explain the change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Lena first assume Mr. Ortiz plans to do with the sketches? Use a detail from the first paragraph to support your answer.	**She assumes he will throw them away. He pushes the cart toward the recycling bins and puts the sketches under boxes.**
2	How do Mr. Ortiz's actions in the lobby challenge Lena's assumption? Use two details from the second paragraph.	**He picks up each page by its edges and shows Lena a folder labeled STUDENT WORK. He also says he asked to save the sketches for a display.**
3	How does Lena's view of the paint streak change? Use one detail from the first paragraph and one from the third.	**At first, she leaves the drawing on a shelf because the paint has run. Later, she notices that the streak looks like part of a storm, with the lighthouse beam cutting through it.**
4	What does the last sentence suggest about the display's effect on other students? Support your inference with two details from the third paragraph.	**The display draws students' attention to their classmates' art. It is near the front doors, and students stop to look before the first bell.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should display student art with visible mistakes, but artists should be asked first. Lena left her lighthouse on a shelf because the blue paint had run. That shows how easily students might hide work that others would enjoy seeing. Mr. Ortiz said the streak looked like a coming storm, which helped Lena notice the lighthouse beam cutting through the paint. His comment shows that a mistake can add meaning to a picture. After Lena chose to put her drawing in the case, other students stopped to look at the display.

Accept reasonable interpretations supported by accurate story details. For Part 3, look for a clear position, two relevant details, and an explanation of how each detail supports the position.