

Little Library Choices

Notice how a narrator's craft choices share a message.

3.10 "Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts. The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the time-order words. Circle the all-capital sign and a sound word, then write 1 beside a comparison and 2 beside an exaggeration to notice how the author makes the library feel real and important.

The Sidewalk Library

- ① On Saturday, I carried a box of books to the new sidewalk library near our park. A bright sign above its door said, "TAKE A BOOK, LEAVE A BOOK." I wanted neighbors to share stories instead of letting old books sleep on shelves. The little library stood as red as a ripe apple beside the gray path.
- ② First, I wiped the shelves and placed picture books on the bottom, where young children could reach them. Next, I set chapter books on top. "Clunk!" went the door when I closed it. My friend Mia said the library looked like it could hold a million books. We laughed, because it held only twenty books that morning.
- ③ Then rain began to tap, tap, tap on the roof. I worried that no one would come, but a boy in a yellow coat opened the door. He chose a book about frogs and tucked it under his arm. By noon, three neighbors had traded books. Our small box showed me that sharing one story can open many doors.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the narrator's purpose for telling this story? What message does the narrator share?

2 How do the words "First," "Next," and "Then" help the author tell the story?

3 How does the all-capital sign, "TAKE A BOOK, LEAVE A BOOK," help the author's purpose?

4 The narrator uses the word "I," and Mia says the library could hold "a million books." How do these choices shape the voice of the story?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence mini-story that invites people to share or care for something. Use first-person point of view, one time-order word, a simile or sound word, an ALL-CAPS sign, and one hyperbole that supports your message.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the time-order words. Circle the all-capital sign and a sound word, then write 1 beside a comparison and 2 beside an exaggeration to notice how the author makes the library feel real and important. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the narrator's purpose for telling this story? What message does the narrator share?	The narrator wants to show that a small book-sharing library can bring neighbors together. The message is that sharing stories can make a difference.
2	How do the words "First," "Next," and "Then" help the author tell the story?	They put events in time order, showing how the library was prepared and what happened after it opened.
3	How does the all-capital sign, "TAKE A BOOK, LEAVE A BOOK," help the author's purpose?	The capital letters catch attention, and the sign clearly tells people how to share books.
4	The narrator uses the word "I," and Mia says the library could hold "a million books." How do these choices shape the voice of the story?	"I" shows first-person point of view, so the story feels personal. "A million books" is hyperbole, which makes Mia sound playful and excited.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, I put a bin of seed packets by the school garden. The sign said, "TAKE ONE, PLANT ONE," and the paper flags fluttered like tiny wings, swish, swish. I knew our garden could grow a billion flowers when everyone shared.

Accept equivalent statements about sharing books, bringing neighbors together, or encouraging people to use the library. For the open task, check for three sentences and each required craft choice, including an exaggeration that is clearly not meant to be literal.