

Drama Parts in Action

Read a short play and notice how its parts work together.

3.9.C “discuss elements of drama such as characters, dialogue, setting, and acts;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each character’s name, underline every line of dialogue, box words that tell the setting, and number the acts in order. Your marks will show how a play is built.

Sunflower Surprise

- ① Act One takes place in the school garden on a bright Monday morning. Maya carries a small watering can beside the bean bed. Leo rushes in with a paper bag. “I found seeds in my kitchen,” he says. Maya looks at the dry soil. “Let’s ask Ms. Chen where to plant them.” The bell rings, and the two friends hurry toward the classroom.
- ② Act Two is in Ms. Chen’s classroom just before lunch. Ms. Chen studies the seeds and smiles. “These are sunflower seeds,” she tells Maya and Leo. Leo frowns. “We need a sunny spot, but the bean bed has shade.” Ms. Chen points to a bare patch near the fence. Maya grins. “That spot gets sun all afternoon!” The children make a planting plan.
- ③ Act Three returns to the garden after school. Maya digs a hole in the sunny patch while Leo drops in three seeds. Ms. Chen watches from the path. “Cover the seeds gently,” she says. Leo pats the soil. “Now they have a new home.” Maya fills the watering can. Together, they water the spot and place a sign that reads, “Sunflowers Growing Here.”

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Who are the three characters in this play?

2 What is the setting in Act Two?

3 Which line of dialogue shows that the bean bed is not the best place for the seeds?

4 How does Act Three move the action forward from Act Two?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-act mini-drama about getting ready for a puppet show. Label each act, give each act a setting, use at least two characters, and include one line of dialogue in each act.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each character's name, underline every line of dialogue, box words that tell the setting, and number the acts in order. Your marks will show how a play is built. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who are the three characters in this play?	Maya, Leo, and Ms. Chen.
2	What is the setting in Act Two?	Ms. Chen's classroom just before lunch.
3	Which line of dialogue shows that the bean bed is not the best place for the seeds?	"We need a sunny spot, but the bean bed has shade."
4	How does Act Three move the action forward from Act Two?	In Act Two, the children make a planting plan. In Act Three, they plant and water the seeds.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Act One, Art Room: Nia and Omar paint a dragon puppet. "The wings need more blue," Nia says. Act Two, Hallway: Omar carries the puppet while Nia brings a cardboard castle. "Let's set up near the curtain," Omar says. Act Three, School Stage: Nia and Omar perform for their class. "Our dragon is ready to fly!" Nia says.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the settings and events when they match the play. For the writing task, accept any clear three-act drama that includes labeled acts, settings, characters, and dialogue.