

Lantern Walk

Notice how a personal narrative uses details, dialogue, and reflection.

5.12.A “compose literary texts such as personal narratives, fiction, and poetry using genre characteristics and craft;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline sensory details and circle dialogue. Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to track how this personal narrative moves from a problem to a reflection.

The Paper Moon

- ① On the morning of the neighborhood lantern walk, rain tapped against my window. I had spent three afternoons building a paper moon lantern with my grandfather, and now its blue tissue paper sagged in the damp air. “We can still go,” Grandfather said, holding up a clear plastic bag. I wanted to believe him, but my stomach felt like a knotted shoelace.
- ② At the park, puddles shone like small mirrors beneath the oak trees. Families gathered under umbrellas, their lanterns glowing red, gold, and green. When my turn came, a gust bent my moon lantern sideways. A thin tear opened near its handle. “I can fix it,” I whispered, although my hands were shaking. Grandfather did not take the lantern. He simply handed me a strip of blue tape.
- ③ I pressed the tear closed and carried the lantern to the path. Rainwater drummed on my hood, but the moon glowed again. As we walked, other lanterns bobbed ahead of us like fireflies. Grandfather squeezed my shoulder. I smiled because the storm had not ruined our evening. It had made the warm light inside my lantern seem brighter.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What kind of literary text is “The Paper Moon”? Give two details from the passage that show its genre.

2 What comparison helps you picture the lanterns near the end? What does the comparison suggest?

3 How does Grandfather’s dialogue and action help show that the narrator solves the problem?

4 How does the final paragraph show a change in the narrator’s feelings?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 90- to 120-word personal narrative about a small problem during an event. Use three paragraphs, first-person point of view, one line of dialogue, one sensory detail, one comparison using like or as, and an ending that tells what you learned or felt.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline sensory details and circle dialogue. Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to track how this personal narrative moves from a problem to a reflection. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What kind of literary text is “The Paper Moon”? Give two details from the passage that show its genre.	It is a personal narrative. It uses first-person point of view and tells one event, the lantern walk, including the narrator’s thoughts and feelings.
2	What comparison helps you picture the lanterns near the end? What does the comparison suggest?	“Other lanterns bobbed ahead of us like fireflies.” It suggests that the lanterns looked like small, moving lights.
3	How does Grandfather’s dialogue and action help show that the narrator solves the problem?	Grandfather says they can still go and hands the narrator blue tape instead of fixing the lantern himself. The narrator uses it to repair the tear.
4	How does the final paragraph show a change in the narrator’s feelings?	The narrator begins worried and shaken, but ends smiling. The narrator realizes the storm made the lantern’s warm light seem brighter.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

During the school garden day, I carried a tray of tomato plants across the muddy field. My sneaker sank with a loud squish, and the tray tipped. Dark soil spilled over my hands and knees. I wanted to hide behind the tool shed because everyone had turned to look. “Plants need dirt,” Maya said, kneeling beside me. “Let’s save them.” Her calm voice was like a porch light in fog. We scooped soil into the pots, and the sharp, green smell of tomato leaves rose around us. By lunch, the plants stood in a neat row. My knees were still muddy, but I was laughing. I learned that asking for help can turn an embarrassing mistake into a shared job.

Accept other well-supported explanations of the passage’s craft choices. For the writing task, look for all required narrative elements, a clear event and problem, and an ending reflection connected to the event.