

Lantern in Rain

Study how narrative details, dialogue, and reflection shape a meaningful moment.

6.11.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 three sensory details, circle the dialogue, and number the three main events in order. These craft choices help build a personal narrative about a challenge and change.

The Last Lantern

- ① On the evening before the neighborhood lantern walk, rain drummed against our porch roof. My paper lantern, painted with blue waves, sagged on the table. I had worked on it for three days. “It will tear,” I told my grandfather. He set a towel beside the lantern and pointed to the cloudy window. “Then we solve one small problem at a time,” he said. Outside, water rushed along the curb like a tiny river, carrying yellow leaves past our steps.
- ② First, we moved the lantern into the kitchen. Grandfather opened a drawer and found wax paper, thin string, and a small brush. I wanted to quit, but he showed me how to cover each soft spot from the inside. The wax paper felt smooth and cool beneath my fingers. When the rain slowed, we tested the lantern under the porch light. Its blue waves glowed through the new patches. “See?” Grandfather said. “A repair can become part of the design.”
- ③ At sunset, our neighbors gathered at the corner, each holding a bright shape on a stick. I carried mine carefully, expecting everyone to notice the patched places. Instead, a little boy pointed at the glowing waves and asked how I made them shine. I told him about the rain and Grandfather's drawer. As we walked, the lantern swung above my shoulder, light trembling across the wet sidewalk. I no longer wished for a perfect lantern. I was proud that mine carried the story of the storm.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What problem starts the narrative, and why does it matter to the narrator?

2 Choose one sensory detail from the passage. How does it help you picture the setting or action?

3 How does Grandfather's dialogue help move the narrative forward?

4 How does the last paragraph show that the narrator has changed?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a 100-130-word personal narrative in three paragraphs about a small problem you faced or solved. Include at least one line of dialogue, two sensory details, sequence words, and a final reflection that shows how you changed.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three sensory details, circle the dialogue, and number the three main events in order. These craft choices help build a personal narrative about a challenge and change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem starts the narrative, and why does it matter to the narrator?	Rain may tear the paper lantern that the narrator spent three days making for the lantern walk.
2	Choose one sensory detail from the passage. How does it help you picture the setting or action?	Answers may vary. For example, “water rushed along the curb like a tiny river” helps the reader picture the heavy rain outside.
3	How does Grandfather's dialogue help move the narrative forward?	His words encourage the narrator to repair the lantern, and they introduce the idea that the patches can become part of its design.
4	How does the last paragraph show that the narrator has changed?	The narrator stops worrying about having a perfect lantern and feels proud because the repaired lantern tells the story of the storm.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before the school art show, I noticed a long crack across the clay bowl I had made. The glaze looked like a thin gray lightning bolt. My stomach tightened as I lifted the bowl from the display table. First, I asked Ms. Ortiz whether I should hide it. “A crack can tell part of the story,” she said. Together, we placed the bowl on a square of dark blue cloth. The rough clay edge caught the bright room light. Later, my dad found my bowl and traced the crack with one finger. I explained how the clay had dried too quickly. I still wished the bowl were smooth, but I did not hide it. The crack showed that I had kept working when my plan changed.

Accept reasonable explanations that use evidence from the passage. For the narrative, check for three paragraphs, 100-130 words, a clear problem and response, dialogue, sensory details, sequence, and reflection.