

Three Text Shapes

Notice how story, poem, and drama are built.

4.RL.2.B “Identify the characteristics of different genres of literary texts (e.g., drama, poems, stories) and refer to the structural elements of each.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells where the first text happens, draw a box around each group of poem lines, and circle each capitalized speaker name in the last text. Your marks will show how the three texts are built in different ways.

Small Moments

- ① Mara carried a small jar to the pond behind her apartment. At sunset, she saw three fireflies blinking over the reeds. She gently caught one, then noticed how its light flashed brighter beside the others. Mara opened the jar. The firefly rose into the warm air, and the three lights drifted together above the water. Mara walked home smiling.
- ② Rain taps softly on the library glass. Books wait quietly, lined in bright rows. A reader turns pages, slow as a snail. Outside, puddles sparkle. Inside, ideas sail. On the window ledge, a sparrow shakes its wings. The room stays still, except for page turns. Rain makes a drumbeat. Stories make a song for every waiting reader.
- ③ [At the school garden, Leo holds a watering can.] LEO: The tomato plant looks droopy. NIA: Its soil is dry. Let us give it water. [Leo pours slowly.] LEO: I hope the sun helps, too. NIA: It will. Tomorrow, we can check the leaves. [They place the can by the fence and walk away together.]

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 How does the final sentence of the first text finish the story's events?

2 What structural elements show that the second text is a poem?

3 What do the capitalized names and the words in brackets do in the last text?

4 How is the second text organized differently from the first text? Use the words lines, stanzas, or sentences in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a short drama with exactly four dialogue lines about a rainy-day discovery. Include one stage direction in brackets and speaker names in capital letters, then name the two structural elements you used.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells where the first text happens, draw a box around each group of poem lines, and circle each capitalized speaker name in the last text. Your marks will show how the three texts are built in different ways. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the final sentence of the first text finish the story's events?	Mara walks home smiling after she releases the firefly, which ends the event peacefully.
2	What structural elements show that the second text is a poem?	It is written in short lines that are grouped into two stanzas.
3	What do the capitalized names and the words in brackets do in the last text?	The capitalized names show who speaks, and the brackets give stage directions about actions or setting.
4	How is the second text organized differently from the first text? Use the words lines, stanzas, or sentences in your answer.	The second text has lines grouped into stanzas, while the first text is written in sentences as a paragraph.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

[In a rainy park, Ava points under a leaf.] AVA: Look, something is moving! MATEO: It is a tiny frog with golden eyes. AVA: Let us watch quietly. MATEO: It hopped toward the pond. Structural elements: capitalized speaker names and a bracketed stage direction.

Accept equivalent descriptions of story events, poem lines and stanzas, and drama dialogue or stage directions when they match the text. For Your Turn, accept any appropriate rainy-day drama with exactly four dialogue lines, capitalized speaker names, a bracketed stage direction, and two correctly named structural elements.