Bridge Warning

Trace how events, character change, and setting shape one story.

5.RL.1.C "Explain how events from the plot cause the character(s) to change or evolve and how the development of character(s) or settings impact the plot."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two events that cause Maya to act differently. Circle words or sentences that show how her thinking changes, then number the actions that result from that change.

The Hidden Sign

1. On Saturday, Maya carried her sketchbook to the old footbridge behind her apartment. She planned to draw the river alone, as she had every weekend since moving to town. Dark clouds gathered above the water, but Maya ignored them. Near the bridge, she saw a small sign: "Trail closed after rain." She sighed and considered turning back.

2. Then a gust of wind snapped the sign's loose corner against the post. Maya noticed that the warning was nearly hidden by wet leaves. Remembering how her little brother loved to explore, she stopped thinking about her drawing. She pulled the leaves away and used a fallen twig to point toward the closed trail. When two younger children approached, Maya told them to use the sidewalk instead.

3. Rain began tapping the bridge rails, and the river rose over the muddy path. Maya hurried home, her sketchbook still blank. At dinner, she told her family about the hidden warning. The next morning, Maya returned with bright paint and asked the building manager for permission to repaint the sign. She no longer saw the bridge as only a quiet place to draw. It was also a place she could help protect.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the windblown sign cause Maya to change what she does at the bridge?

2. Why does remembering her little brother lead Maya to help the younger children?

3. How does the rainy bridge setting affect what happens after Maya helps at the trail?

4. How does Maya's new view of the bridge affect the ending of the plot?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence new scene that could happen after the story. Sentence 1 must describe a new event at the bridge, sentence 2 must explain how it changes or confirms Maya's thinking, and sentence 3 must show an action her changed thinking causes.

ANSWER KEY

Bridge Warning

GRADE 5 · 5.RL.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two events that cause Maya to act differently. Circle words or sentences that show how her thinking changes, then number the actions that result from that change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the windblown sign cause Maya to change what she does at the bridge?	**The wind helps Maya notice that wet leaves hide the warning. She stops focusing on drawing, clears the leaves, and directs children to the sidewalk.**
2	Why does remembering her little brother lead Maya to help the younger children?	**Thinking about her brother makes Maya realize that children might not see the hidden warning or understand the danger.**
3	How does the rainy bridge setting affect what happens after Maya helps at the trail?	**Rain and the rising river make the muddy path unsafe, so Maya hurries home without making her drawing.**
4	How does Maya's new view of the bridge affect the ending of the plot?	**Maya begins to see the bridge as a place she should protect, so she returns and asks to repaint the warning sign.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

One week after Maya repainted the sign, a family stopped at the bridge during a storm. Maya explained the danger calmly, showing that she now felt responsible for people who used the bridge. Because of this responsibility, she asked the manager to add a covered notice board.

Accept responses that accurately connect an event to Maya's changing thoughts or actions and explain how the rainy bridge setting affects the plot. For Part 3, accept logical new events and a clear cause-and-effect chain across all three sentences.