Lanterns and Clues

Use what you know to set a purpose before reading.

5.RL.3.A "Set a purpose for reading by activating prior (experience) and background (content) knowledge."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline details you can connect to your own experiences and circle details that connect to facts you already know. In the margin, write one question you want the story to answer, your purpose for reading.

The Last Lantern

1. On a rainy Tuesday, Lena opened a story called The Last Lantern. Its first page showed a girl carrying a lantern toward a dark harbor. Lena remembered walking beside her grandfather at dusk, when streetlights blinked on and boats rocked against the dock. That experience helped her imagine the sounds, shadows, and slippery boards in the story's setting.

2. Before she read farther, Lena also used background knowledge from science class. She knew that wind can push waves toward shore and that a harbor gives boats calmer water. She noticed the picture's bent flag and white-tipped waves. Lena decided to read to find out why the girl was walking toward the harbor during a storm, and how the lantern might help.

3. In the next pages, the girl, Inez, saw her uncle's fishing boat turning in the rough water. She climbed the harbor steps and lifted the lantern high, so its light shone above the rocks. The boat followed the light into the calmer harbor. Lena's purpose kept her watching for clues about Inez's choice and the lantern's use.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What personal experience did Lena use before reading, and what parts of the setting did it help her imagine?

2. What background knowledge from science did Lena activate before reading?

3. What question did Lena set as her purpose for reading?

4. How did the ending answer Lena's purpose question? Use two details from the story.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a literary story you plan to read. Write one purpose question, then write exactly two sentences: one connects the story to your experience, and one connects it to a fact or topic you already know.

ANSWER KEY

Lanterns and Clues

GRADE 5 · 5.RL.3.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

As you read, underline details you can connect to your own experiences and circle details that connect to facts you already know. In the margin, write one question you want the story to answer, your purpose for reading. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What personal experience did Lena use before reading, and what parts of the setting did it help her imagine?	**She remembered walking by the dock with her grandfather at dusk. It helped her imagine the sounds, shadows, and slippery boards.**
2	What background knowledge from science did Lena activate before reading?	**She knew wind can push waves toward shore and that a harbor gives boats calmer water.**
3	What question did Lena set as her purpose for reading?	**She wanted to find out why Inez was walking to the harbor during a storm and how the lantern might help.**
4	How did the ending answer Lena's purpose question? Use two details from the story.	**Inez went to the harbor because her uncle's fishing boat was turning in rough water. She lifted the lantern, and the boat followed its light into the calmer harbor.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Purpose: How will Kira find the missing puppy? I once searched for my cat after it slipped into the yard, so I know the search may feel urgent. I know dogs can follow familiar sounds and smells, so I will watch for clues about what guides the puppy home.

Accept equivalent wording for Lena's experience, science knowledge, and reading purpose. For Part 3, accept a clear purpose question plus exactly two sentences, one based on personal experience and one based on relevant background knowledge.