

Fog Signal

Track sound, clues, and contrasting viewpoints in a suspenseful scene.

8.RL.2 "Craft and Style Interpret the meaning and analyze the impact of poetic elements in prose and poetry (e.g., rhyme, rhythm, repetition, alliteration, and onomatopoeia) on the reader. Analyze how the elements of an author's style (e.g...."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that foreshadow a problem, circle repeated sound words, and write L above Lila's fear and A above Arun's fear to show how sound and point of view build suspense.

The Red Ribbon

- ① On the night before the harbor festival, Lila climbed the hill to deliver bread to her grandfather, the lighthouse keeper. The sea slapped the rocks below, slap, slap, slap, while fog folded around the tower. At the door, she found his brass key hanging from a red ribbon, though he never left it outside. "Grandfather?" she called. Only the lantern answered, clicking once, then twice. Lila pocketed the key. The bright ribbon looked cheerful, but it felt like a warning flag.
- ② Inside, Arun had watched Lila approach from the narrow window. He wanted to open the door, but his stiff knee locked when he hurried down the stairs. The missing key did not frighten him. He had tied it to the ribbon himself so Lila would notice it. Earlier that afternoon, a stranger had asked when the festival boats would arrive. Arun had said nothing, yet the stranger's silver whistle now lay on the table beside the lamp. Tick. Tick. The clock sounded louder than usual.
- ③ Lila entered and saw Arun gripping the stair rail. "I thought someone had taken you," she said, holding up the key. Arun pointed to the whistle. "I thought the stranger had returned." Then a festival boat horn boomed from the harbor, and both of them laughed. The stranger was the new boat captain, who had come to ask about the tide. Still, Arun removed the red ribbon from the key and placed it beside the lamp. In the beam, its color looked like a warm signal rather than a warning flag.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 How do the repeated sounds "slap, slap, slap" and "Tick. Tick." affect the mood before Lila enters the lighthouse?

2 How do Lila's and Arun's points of view differ when they meet inside the lighthouse?

3 Which two details foreshadow that the stranger may cause trouble, and how do they build suspense?

4 What does the red ribbon suggest at the beginning and at the end of the passage? How does this change affect the tone?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a 55-75 word suspenseful scene. Use a repeated sound or sound word, show two characters interpreting the same situation differently, and include a symbol or a clue that foreshadows the ending.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that foreshadow a problem, circle repeated sound words, and write L above Lila's fear and A above Arun's fear to show how sound and point of view build suspense. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the repeated sounds "slap, slap, slap" and "Tick. Tick." affect the mood before Lila enters the lighthouse?	They create a tense, uneasy mood. The repeated sea and clock sounds make the setting feel isolated and make the wait seem longer.
2	How do Lila's and Arun's points of view differ when they meet inside the lighthouse?	Lila thinks someone may have taken Arun, while Arun thinks the stranger may have returned. Each fears a different danger.
3	Which two details foreshadow that the stranger may cause trouble, and how do they build suspense?	The stranger asks about the festival boats, and his silver whistle is left beside the lamp. These details make the reader suspect that he may return with a harmful plan.
4	What does the red ribbon suggest at the beginning and at the end of the passage? How does this change affect the tone?	At first, it suggests a warning and possible danger. At the end, it suggests warmth and safety, shifting the tone from fearful to relieved.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rain tapped, tapped, tapped on the bus shelter as Nia held the blue ticket with a small dove printed on it. "The driver forgot us," she whispered. Her brother Malik studied the dove. "No, someone wants us to wait," he said. When the bus arrived, the driver explained that the ticket was a memorial pass, saving them seats for their grandmother's ceremony.

Accept supported explanations of mood, foreshadowing, symbolism, and contrasting viewpoints, even when students use different wording. For Part 3, confirm that the response is 55-75 words and includes all three required craft moves.