Characters and setting worksheet

3rd grade reading · Literature · RL.3.3

Name _____ Date _____

For grown-ups: 12 questions from our characters and setting practice, easier ones first. Read a question aloud if your child wants that, then check together with the answer key on page 3. Read the passage before the questions that go with it. Circle the letter of the best answer, or the right word where there are no letters.

The Brave Little Boat

Noah's family spent every summer at a cabin on a wide blue lake. Tall pine trees lined the shore, and loons called across the water at night.

This summer, Noah's dad gave him a small red rowboat. Noah was thrilled, until he looked at the water. The lake seemed enormous. He stayed in the shallow part near the dock, where he could still see the sandy bottom.

His older cousin Priya rowed out to the floating raft every day. "Come on, Noah!" she called. "It's not far."

For a week, Noah said no. Then one calm morning, with the lake as flat as glass, he pushed off from the dock. He rowed one stroke, then another. His arms shook, but he kept going.

When his boat bumped the raft, Priya cheered. Noah looked back at the dock. It looked so small now. He grinned.

1. **Where does this story take place?**

   A. At a swimming pool **B.** In the city **C.** At the ocean **D.** At a cabin by a lake

2. **How does Noah feel about the lake at the beginning?**

   A. Sleepy **B.** Bored **C.** Nervous **D.** Angry

3. **Which word best describes Priya?**

   A. Unfriendly **B.** Encouraging **C.** Very shy **D.** Mean

4. **Why did Noah choose a calm morning to row out?**

   A. It was less scary when the water was flat **B.** His dad was watching from the cabin
   C. Priya told him to go that day **D.** The raft had floated closer to the dock

5. **Which word best describes Sofia?**

   > Sofia saw the new girl eating alone. She picked up her tray, walked over, and asked, "Can I sit with you?"

   A. Rude **B.** Sleepy **C.** Scared **D.** Friendly

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3rd grade reading · questions, continued

6. **When does this story take place?**

> The alarm clock buzzed. Jamal yawned, stretched, and squinted at the sunlight peeking through his curtains. Time for school.

A. Early in the morning
B. On a weekend afternoon
C. Late at night
D. At lunchtime

7. **True or false: This story happens at the beach.**

> Priya dug her toes into the warm sand and watched the waves roll in. A seagull snatched a chip right out of her hand.

○ **True** ○ **False**

8. **How did Mateo change?**

> In September, Mateo hid behind his mom at the door of the dance class. By June, he was the first one on stage, grinning at the crowd.

A. He became shyer **B.** He stopped dancing **C.** He became braver **D.** He got taller

9. **True or false: Leo is a patient character.**

> "Are we there yet?" Leo asked for the tenth time. He kicked the back of the seat and sighed loudly.

○ **True** ○ **False**

10. **Which word best describes Kenji?**

> Kenji checked his answers three times. Then he erased one and fixed it. Only when every letter was neat did he hand in his paper.

A. Careless **B.** Noisy **C.** Lazy **D.** Careful

11. **How does the setting make Amara feel?**

> The old house creaked with every step. Dust covered the furniture, and a cold draft blew through a broken window. Amara held her flashlight with both hands.

A. Cozy and safe
B. Excited to play
C. Uneasy and a little scared
D. Bored

12. **What does this detail tell you about Grandpa?**

> Grandpa's garden was perfect. Every row was straight, every weed was pulled, and each tomato plant had its own hand-painted label.

A. He is forgetful
B. He does not like gardening
C. He is in a hurry
D. He is organized and takes pride in his work

Answer key: Characters and setting

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1. **D. At a cabin by a lake**
   The family spends summers at a cabin on a lake.
2. **C. Nervous**
   The lake seemed enormous, and he stayed near the dock, showing he was nervous.
3. **B. Encouraging**
   Priya invites Noah every day and cheers when he makes it, so she is encouraging.
4. **A. It was less scary when the water was flat**
   Flat water is safer and easier, which helped Noah feel brave enough to try.
5. **D. Friendly**
   Sofia went to sit with someone who was alone, which is a friendly thing to do.
6. **A. Early in the morning**
   An alarm, a yawn, and sunlight peeking in are clues that it is morning.
7. **True**
   Sand, waves, and a seagull are clues that Priya is at the beach.
8. **C. He became braver**
   Mateo went from hiding to being first on stage, so he became braver.
9. **False**
   Asking ten times, kicking, and sighing show Leo is impatient.
10. **D. Careful**
    Checking three times and making every letter neat shows Kenji is careful.
11. **C. Uneasy and a little scared**
    Creaking, dust, and a cold draft make the house feel spooky, and Amara grips her flashlight nervously.
12. **D. He is organized and takes pride in his work**
    Straight rows, no weeds, and painted labels show Grandpa is organized and proud of his garden.