Why Characters Act

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the detail from the text that shows what each question says about the character.

READ THIS FIRST

Sami Misses the Big Game

Sami had been waiting all week for Saturday's soccer game. His team, the Comets, was playing the Hornets, the only team that had beaten them all season. Sami was the goalkeeper, and he had a plan for stopping their fastest player.

On Friday night, he found his little sister, Noor, at the kitchen table. She was surrounded by cardboard, glue, and a pile of crumpled paper. Her volcano model for the third-grade science fair was due Monday morning. It was leaning sideways like a melting candle.

"It keeps falling over," Noor said. Her voice was tiny. "Mom and Dad have to work all weekend. Everyone else's parents are helping them."

Sami looked at the crooked volcano. He remembered his own third-grade science fair. He had built a bridge out of craft sticks by himself because his parents were busy then, too. The night before the fair, it collapsed. He had stood next to a pile of sticks while other kids showed off their projects. He had never told anyone how embarrassed he felt.

Sami picked up his phone and texted his coach. "Sorry, I can't make the game tomorrow. Family thing." Then he pulled out a chair.

"First," he said, "we need a stronger base." He showed Noor how to build a cone out of rolled newspaper and tape. On Saturday morning, they covered it with strips of paper dipped in paste. While it dried, Sami checked the score of his game on his phone. The Comets had lost by one goal. He winced, but he didn't say anything.

On Sunday, Noor painted the volcano brown and orange. She wrote her own labels for each layer. When Sami offered to write them, she shook her head. "I want to do this part myself," she said. Sami nodded and stepped back.

On Monday afternoon, Noor ran off the bus waving a ribbon. "Third place!" she shouted. "And my volcano didn't fall over once!"

Sami grinned. There would be other soccer games.

1. Which sentence best shows that Sami understands how Noor feels?

   He winced, but he didn't say anything.

   He had never told anyone how embarrassed he felt.

   On Sunday, Noor painted the volcano brown and orange.

   Sami was the goalkeeper.

2. Which detail shows that Sami gave up something to help Noor?

   He showed Noor how to build a cone out of rolled newspaper.

   He checked the score of the game on his phone.

   He told his coach he could not make the game.

   He had a plan for stopping the Hornets' fastest player.

3. Which detail shows that Noor needed help with her project?

   "Third place!" she shouted.

   She shook her head when Sami offered to write them.

   She wrote her own labels for each layer.

   "It keeps falling over," Noor said.

4. Which sentence shows why Noor did not ask her parents for help?

   She was surrounded by cardboard, glue, and crumpled paper.

   Her volcano model was due Monday morning.

   Mom and Dad have to work all weekend.

   It was leaning sideways like a melting candle.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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