Point of View

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Each question gives one sentence. Circle what it shows.

READ THIS FIRST

The Closed Garage Door

I woke up on my tenth birthday and raced downstairs. I expected balloons, or at least a "Happy birthday, Inés!" Instead, Mamá was reading the newspaper, and Papá was searching for his car keys. Last year, Papá had made pancakes shaped like the number nine.

"Good morning," Mamá said. That was all.

I ate my cereal slowly. I poked at it until it turned soggy. Nobody said a word about my birthday. Maybe they were too busy. Maybe they had simply forgotten. My chest felt tight, and I stared into my bowl.

After breakfast, my brother Mateo came in from the garage. He had a smudge of yellow paint on his nose. When he saw me, he quickly shut the garage door behind him.

"What were you doing in there?" I asked.

"Nothing," he said. "Looking for my soccer ball." But his soccer ball was sitting right by the front door. I decided he was just being strange, as usual.

All morning, I heard whispers and the buzz of a drill. Whenever I walked into the kitchen, everyone stopped talking. Once, I heard Mateo laugh, and Papá said, "Shh!" Papá said he was "fixing the shelves." Mamá told me to go read in my room. I sat on my bed with a book, but I read the same page four times. I felt like a guest in my own house.

At lunchtime, Mamá called me to the backyard. I trudged outside, expecting to pull weeds in the garden. Instead, my whole family was standing beside a wooden bench under the lemon tree. It was painted bright yellow, and my name was carved on the back.

"Happy birthday!" they shouted.

I looked at the bench, and then at Mateo's yellow nose. Finally, I understood.

Mateo grinned. "Do you know how hard it is to keep a secret from you?" he asked.

I had been so busy feeling forgotten that I had missed every clue.

1. "Maybe they had simply forgotten." What does this sentence show about the narrator?

   She knows exactly what her family is thinking.

   She is guessing what her family is thinking.

   She is glad to have a quiet birthday.

   She is planning a surprise for Mateo.

2. "I decided he was just being strange, as usual." What does this sentence show about the narrator?

   She is worried that Mateo is hurt.

   She knows about the secret bench.

   She misreads why Mateo is acting oddly.

   She wants to help Mateo look for his ball.

3. "I read the same page four times." What does this sentence show about the narrator?

   She is hiding from her brother.

   She likes the story so much that she rereads it.

   She is too upset to pay attention to the book.

   She is practicing her reading for school.

4. "Finally, I understood." What does this sentence show about the narrator?

   She sees that her family is angry with her.

   She learns that she forgot her own birthday.

   She decides that Mateo is hiding a pet.

   She realizes her family was planning a surprise.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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