Use Evidence in Stories

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Circle the best reason for each why question.

READ THIS FIRST

The Trumpet Next Door

Femi practiced his trumpet every day after school. He played on the back porch, where the notes bounced off the wooden fence. He was learning a song for the spring concert.

Next door lived Mrs. Petrova. She was old and quiet, and she kept her curtains closed most of the day. Femi worried that his playing bothered her. Whenever he saw her watering her tomato plants, he played more softly.

One Thursday, Femi had a bad cold. He stayed inside and did not practice at all. On Friday, he stayed inside again.

On Saturday morning, there was a knock at the door. Mrs. Petrova stood on the step with a jar of honey and a paper bag of lemons.

"For your throat," she said. "The porch has been too quiet."

Femi's mother invited her in for tea. Mrs. Petrova sat at the kitchen table and looked at the trumpet case in the corner. She told them that her husband had played trumpet in a band many years ago.

"He practiced on our porch, too," she said. "I used to open the window to hear him."

When Femi felt better, he went back to the porch and played his concert song. Halfway through, he noticed something new. The curtain in Mrs. Petrova's kitchen window was pulled all the way open.

Femi stood up a little taller. He played the last part of the song a little louder than before.

1. Why did Femi play the last part of the song louder?
   He was angry that she was watching.
   He knew now that she enjoyed it.
   His cold made it hard to play softly.

2. Why did Femi play more softly when he saw Mrs. Petrova?
   He was getting tired from playing so long.
   He hoped she would ask him to stop playing.
   He worried that he might be bothering her.

3. Why did Mrs. Petrova bring honey and lemons?
   She wanted to bring something for the spring concert.
   She was bringing them as a gift for his mother.
   Femi had a sore throat from his cold.

4. Why might the trumpet remind Mrs. Petrova of happy times?
   She played one in a band when she was a girl.
   Her husband once played one on their porch.
   Femi's mother once played one for her at tea.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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