Find the Theme

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Circle the detail from the story that shows what each question says.

READ THIS FIRST

The Borrowed Scooter

Amara's neighbor, Mr. Haddad, had a bright blue scooter that his grandson rode on weekends. One Tuesday, Amara asked if she could borrow it to ride to the park with her friend Lena. "Of course," Mr. Haddad said. "Just bring it back by dinner."

At the park, Amara and Lena took turns racing down the smooth path. On her last turn, Amara hit a crack in the pavement. She jumped off safely, but the scooter slammed into a bench. When she picked it up, the handlebar wobbled, and a long scratch ran down the blue paint.

Amara's stomach dropped. "Maybe he won't notice," Lena said. "You could just lean it against his fence and go home."

On the walk back, Amara thought about Lena's idea. It would be easy. Mr. Haddad's eyes were not very good anymore. But she pictured his grandson trying to ride on Saturday. The loose handlebar could make him fall. She also remembered how quickly Mr. Haddad had said yes.

Amara knocked on his door. Her voice shook as she told him what had happened. "I'm really sorry," she said. "I can help fix it. I'll use my birthday money for the paint."

Mr. Haddad looked at the scooter for a long moment. Then he went to get his toolbox. "A handlebar is easy to fix," he said. "A person who tells the truth is harder to find." He showed Amara how to tighten the bolt with a wrench. Together they painted over the scratch with a small jar of blue paint.

Two weeks later, Mr. Haddad stopped Amara on the sidewalk. He was going away for a few days. "Would you water my tomato plants while I'm gone?" he asked. He handed her his spare key. Amara held it carefully. She knew he would not give it to just anyone.

1. Which sentence states the lesson in a character's own words?

   "A handlebar is easy to fix."

   "Just bring it back by dinner."

   "A person who tells the truth is harder to find."

   "Maybe he won't notice."

2. How does the ending support the theme?

Amara buys a new scooter with her birthday money.

Lena says sorry for her bad idea.

Mr. Haddad's grandson rides the scooter.

Mr. Haddad trusts Amara with his spare key.

3. Which detail shows that Amara took responsibility for the damage?

She jumped off the scooter before it hit the bench.

Lena said that Mr. Haddad might not notice the damage.

She offered to use her birthday money for paint.

She walked back from the park thinking about Lena's idea.

4. Which detail shows that Amara thought about what staying silent could cause?

Mr. Haddad's eyes were not very good anymore.

She pictured his grandson trying to ride on Saturday.

Lena said she could lean it against Mr. Haddad's fence and go home.

She hit a crack in the pavement.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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