Find the Theme

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Circle what the words or the detail show.

READ THIS FIRST

Hana's Paper Crane

Hana wanted to win the paper crane contest at the library. The winner's crane would hang in the front window for a whole month. On Friday afternoon, she grabbed a square of shiny red paper and started folding as fast as she could.

Her folds were quick, but they were not neat. The corners did not quite meet. When she pulled the wings open, the crane's neck bent sideways and one wing tore. Hana crumpled it into a ball. "This is impossible," she said.

Her grandmother was sitting by the window, mending a sweater. She set down her needle and picked up a fresh square. "Watch my hands," she said. She folded slowly. She pressed each crease with her thumbnail before moving on. If a corner was off, she unfolded it and tried again.

Hana sighed, but she copied her grandmother. It took much longer. Her fingers wanted to hurry, so she counted to three before each new fold. After twenty minutes, she held up a crane with sharp wings and a straight neck.

On Saturday, Hana did not win the contest. A boy named Felix made a crane the size of a dinner plate. Still, the librarian put Hana's crane on a shelf near the door. She said it was one of the neatest cranes she had ever seen.

That night, Hana taught her little brother to fold a crane. "Go slowly," she told him. "Press every crease."

1. Hana says, "This is impossible." What does this show?
   - She is upset that her rushed crane failed.
   - She is sure that Felix will lose the contest.
   - She is proud of how quickly the crane came out.

2. Hana's grandmother says, "Watch my hands." What does this show?
   - She wants to teach Hana by showing her.
   - She wants Hana to watch the contest instead.
   - She wants Hana to stop and rest her hands.

3. Hana counts to three before each new fold. What does this show?
   - She is getting bored with folding.
   - She wants to finish before Felix does.
   - She is learning to slow down.

4. Hana sighed, but she copied her grandmother. What does this show?
   - She did not like going slowly, but she tried it.
   - She wanted her grandmother to fold it for her.
   - She was glad that her grandmother showed her how.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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