Story Structure

Grade 5 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

PencilGo

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

The Violin on Corner Street

At seven, when the shop shutters start to rise,
a man unfolds a chair on Corner Street.
He tunes his old violin, string by string,
while hurried shoes go clicking past his feet.

He plays a tune as soft as early light.
The bankers check their phones. The buses roar.
A man with coffee nods but does not stop.
The music floats and fades beside a store.

At nine, a girl in yellow boots walks by,
her mother pulling gently at her hand.
The girl plants both her boots and will not move.
She tilts her head as if to understand.

"Just one more minute, please," she tells her mom.
The man smiles back and plays a little faster.
The girl begins to sway from heel to toe,
and two more people pause to hear her laughter.

By noon the corner hums like a beehive.
A baker leaves his shop to stand and hear.
A taxi driver taps against his wheel.
A toddler on a bench begins to cheer.

The violin case, open at his feet,
fills up with coins, a flower and a note.
The note says, "Thank you for my lunch-break song,"
in careful letters someone slowly wrote.

At three, gray clouds roll in across the roofs.
The first fat raindrops tap the violin.
The crowd breaks up and scatters to the doors.
The man begins to pack his music in.

Then yellow boots come splashing down the street.
The girl holds out a big umbrella, wide.
"Mom says you can't stop now," she tells the man.
He laughs and plays beneath it, side by side.

At seven, when the shop shutters start to fall,
a man folds up his chair on Corner Street.
He hums the tune a girl will hum tonight,
while slower shoes go walking past his feet.

1. How is the poem organized?
   by times of day, from morning to evening
   by seasons, from spring to winter
   by the places the man travels to

2. What do stanzas 1 and 2 show before the girl arrives?
   People rush past without stopping to listen.
   Rain chases everyone off the street.
   A crowd gathers to hear the man play.

3. What is the role of stanza 3 in the poem?
   It describes the rain that ends the music.
   It brings in the first person who stops to listen.
   It tells where the man lives at night.

4. How does stanza 5 build on stanza 4?
   The crowd leaves because of the rain.
   A few listeners grow into a whole crowd.
   The girl goes home with her mother.

5. Which stanza brings a new problem into the poem?
   stanza 7, when the rain begins
   stanza 6, when the case fills up
   stanza 3, when the girl stops

6. Why is it important that the girl comes back in stanza 8?
   She asks the man to teach her the violin.
   She solves the problem the rain created.
   She is the person who wrote the thank-you note.

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Answer Key - Grade 5 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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