Story Structure

Grade 5 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

The Smudged Recipe: A Play in Three Scenes

CHARACTERS: MIN-JI, age eleven. JUN, her brother, age eight. AUNT SORA, their aunt. HALMEONI, their grandmother.

SCENE 1

SETTING: The family kitchen on a Friday afternoon. A recipe card lies on the counter. Its ink is blurred by a water stain.

MIN-JI: (holding up the card) Halmeoni's birthday is tomorrow, and this is her honey rice cake recipe. We could make it for her as a surprise.

JUN: (squinting) Half the words are gone. Somebody spilled water on it.

MIN-JI: I can read "rice flour" and "honey." But how much rice flour? And what's this word? It could be "sesame" or "seven."

JUN: Seven what?

MIN-JI: Exactly. (She sighs.) We need help.

SCENE 2

SETTING: Aunt Sora's apartment, one hour later. Aunt Sora is watering plants on the balcony.

AUNT SORA: (looking at the card) Oh, I remember these cakes. Halmeoni made them every autumn. The word is "sesame." You fill the middle with sesame seeds and honey.

MIN-JI: And the rice flour?

AUNT SORA: (laughing) I never saw her measure anything. She used a blue cup with a chip on the rim. She filled it twice.

JUN: Two cups! (He writes it on the back of the card.)

AUNT SORA: One more thing. She always said the dough should feel like your earlobe. Soft, but not sticky.

JUN: (touching his ear, confused) My earlobe?

MIN-JI: Don't worry. We'll figure it out.

SCENE 3

SETTING: The family kitchen, Saturday morning. Flour dusts the counter. A plate of small half-moon cakes sits in the middle.

JUN: (proudly) They look like little moons.

MIN-JI: The first batch was too sticky. The second batch cracked. But this batch felt just like an earlobe.

(The door opens. HALMEONI enters with a gift bag.)

HALMEONI: What is that smell? (She stops at the table.) Honey rice cakes?

MIN-JI and JUN: Happy birthday!

HALMEONI: (tasting one slowly, then smiling) Who told you about the blue cup?

MIN-JI: Aunt Sora. And about the earlobe.

HALMEONI: (laughing) Then you know my real recipe. (She picks up the smudged card and turns it over to Jun's notes.) I will keep this one. Now it has your handwriting on it, too.

1. What is the main purpose of Scene 1?
   - It explains how Aunt Sora learned to bake.
   - It sets up the problem of the blurred recipe.
   - It shows the children solving the recipe's mystery.
   - It introduces Halmeoni and her birthday gift bag.

2. Why does the setting change from the kitchen in Scene 1 to Aunt Sora's apartment in Scene 2?
   - The children want to bake in a bigger kitchen.
   - The children go to someone who can fill in the missing words.
   - Aunt Sora needs help watering her plants.
   - Halmeoni has invited them over for her birthday.

3. Which question from Scene 1 is answered in Scene 2?
   - why Halmeoni's birthday is on Saturday
   - who spilled water on the recipe card
   - whether the blurred word is 'sesame' or 'seven'
   - whether Halmeoni will like the surprise

4. Aunt Sora says the dough should feel like an earlobe. How does this detail matter later?
   - Jun writes it on the card in Scene 1.
   - Halmeoni explains it to the children in Scene 2.
   - It causes the children's first batch to crack.
   - Min-ji uses it in Scene 3 to tell when the dough is right.

5. What do the setting lines at the start of Scene 3 show before anyone speaks?
   - Aunt Sora is baking in the family kitchen.
   - Halmeoni has arrived to help them bake.
   - The children have given up on the recipe.
   - The children have already made the cakes.

6. Min-ji mentions a first and a second batch in Scene 3. Why doesn't the play show those batches?
   - The children forgot to make them before the party.
   - Halmeoni made those batches before she left.
   - Those batches were made in Scene 2 at Aunt Sora's.
   - The play skips ahead and reports them in one line.

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Answer Key - Grade 5 Reading Worksheet

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