5TH GRADE READING · FICTION

The Night of the Storm

Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 200 words | Figurative language

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 The storm arrived just after dinner. The wind howled around Grandpa's farmhouse like a hungry wolf, and rain drummed on the roof. Then, with a pop, the lights went out. The whole house was as dark as the inside of a closed fist.

2 Amir felt his heart race. He had never liked the dark, and the farm was miles from the nearest town. "Grandpa?" he whispered. A match scratched, and a small flame **bloomed** in the blackness. Grandpa lit an old oil lamp, and the kitchen glowed like a slice of sunset.

3 "Storms are just the sky clearing its throat," Grandpa said, settling into his chair. He pulled a dusty board game from the cupboard. As the thunder **grumbled,** they played round after round, and Grandpa told stories about the blizzard of his childhood, when snow had swallowed the barn up to its roof.

4 Somewhere in the middle of the third game, Amir realized he was laughing. The wind was still howling, but it sounded farther away now, like a dog barking in another town. When the lights **flickered** back on, Amir was almost disappointed. "Can we turn them off again?" he asked. Grandpa chuckled and blew out the lamp.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The Night of the Storm: questions

Name _____ Date _____

I can find answers in the text. Look back at the story to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. "Howled like a hungry wolf" is a...

(a) fact (b) simile (c) question

2. How did Amir feel at first?

(a) scared (b) bored (c) sleepy

3. Why was Amir almost disappointed?

(a) he was having fun (b) the lamp broke (c) the game was over

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

- [ ] Grandpa lit an oil lamp.
- [ ] They played a board game.
- [ ] The lights came back on.
- [ ] The lights went out.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The Night of the Storm: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

bloomed ○	○ opened up and spread like a flower
grumbled ○	○ went on and off quickly
flickered ○	○ made a low, unhappy sound

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

Find one simile in the story. What two things does it compare, and what does it help you picture?

_____

_____

_____

_____

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The Night of the Storm

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) simile

2. a) scared

3. a) he was having fun

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 2, 3, 4, 1

1. The lights went out.
2. Grandpa lit an oil lamp.
3. They played a board game.
4. The lights came back on.

3 Word meanings

bloomed: opened up and spread like a flower

grumbled: made a low, unhappy sound

flickered: went on and off quickly

4 Written answer (sample)

Sample: “The wind howled like a hungry wolf.” It compares the wind to a wolf and helps me picture a loud, scary sound.

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