

Name _____

bouquet

encircle

fussy

sparkles

emotion

express

portraits

whirl

Finish each sentence using the vocabulary word provided.

1. **(bouquet)** On Mother's Day _____
_____.
2. **(emotion)** Watching the sad movie _____
_____.
3. **(encircle)** When we play the game in the school yard, _____
_____.
4. **(express)** Some artists I know _____
_____.
5. **(fussy)** Whenever we go shopping, _____
_____.
6. **(portraits)** At the art museum _____
_____.
7. **(sparkles)** When I am in art class, _____
_____.
8. **(whirl)** I saw the couple on the dance floor _____
_____.

Name _____

Read the selection. Complete the problem and solution graphic organizer.

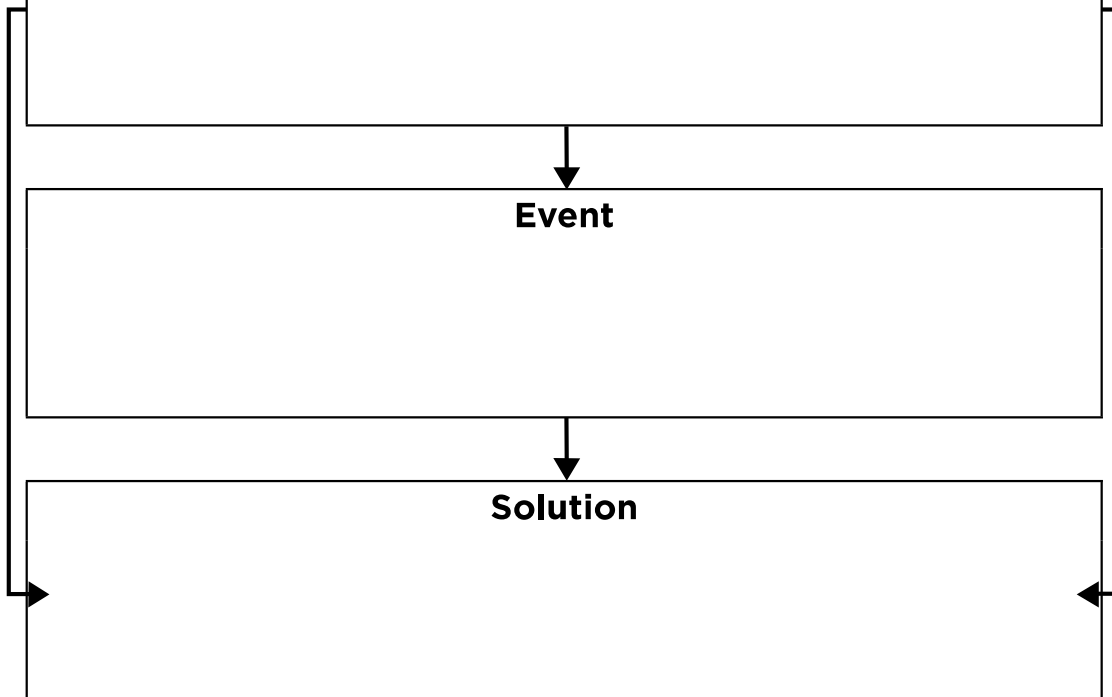
Characters

Setting

Problem

Event

Solution



Name _____

Read the passage. Use the visualize strategy to help you understand the story.

The Stray Dog

11 Kwan was in his neighborhood, walking home from the bus stop,
24 when a medium-sized dog came running up to him. It was a shaggy
38 white dog with orange spots and floppy ears and looked as if it didn't
50 belong to anybody. Kwan bent down for a closer look. He didn't
61 recognize the animal from any of the families in the neighborhood.
77 The dog was a big fluffy ball of dirt and had no tags, so there was
90 little doubt. The dog was a stray. Kwan wondered what he should do.
103 Kwan walked the rest of the way to his house, the dog following
116 behind him. When Kwan reached his front door, he picked up the dog
127 and walked inside. The dog wagged his tail frantically with pleasure
141 at being held. He felt like a huge sack of marbles in Kwan's arms
153 as Kwan carried him into the kitchen. His father was there pouring
168 orange juice into a glass. He took one look at Kwan and the dog and
174 nearly dropped the carton of juice.
185 "You can't keep it, Kwan," his father said. "I've already explained
198 to you that we don't have the time or space for a dog."
211 "I know, Dad," said Kwan, putting the dog down on the floor. "But
225 he's definitely a stray, and I really want to help him." The dog ran
238 over to the kitchen door where Kwan's dad kept a pair of running
252 shoes. He took both shoes in his mouth and ran back over to Kwan
266 and plopped the shoes down in front of him. The dog sat there with
277 his tongue hanging out, wagging his tail. Just then, Kwan's mom
walked in.

Name _____

“I guess he likes shoes,” she said, smiling. “Why don’t you take him to Uncle Bae’s and see if he wants the dog?” She looked at Kwan pointedly and said, “He gets so few visitors.”

“Okay, okay. I’ll go see Uncle Bae,” said Kwan. He grabbed an old belt from the closet to use for a leash and walked out the door.

Uncle Bae was Kwan’s least favorite relative, mainly because he was a real grump. He was about as warm as a block of ice. As a young man, Uncle Bae had fought in the army and had his vision severely damaged so that now he could barely see.

“Come in!” his uncle called when Kwan rang the bell. Kwan walked into the living room with the dog, saying, “Hi, Uncle Bae. It’s me, Kwan.” His uncle was sitting in an easy chair.



“This stray dog followed me home this afternoon and Mom and Dad said I couldn’t keep it,” Kwan announced. “We thought you might like to keep him.”

“What am I going to do with a dog?” said Uncle Bae angrily. “Get him away. But first, go get my shoes. They’re in my bedroom.”

Kwan smiled knowingly at the dog. He walked the dog into Uncle Bae’s bedroom and brought him over to a pair of loafers. The dog grabbed the shoes in his mouth and ran back into the living room. He plopped the loafers right in Uncle Bae’s lap. Uncle Bae’s face lit up like the sun. It was the first time in a long time that Kwan saw his Uncle Bae smile. Uncle Bae looked at Kwan and said, “What should I name him?”

Name _____

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.

1. What is the main problem Kwan faces in the story?

2. What is Kwan’s mother’s suggestion?

3. What is Uncle Bae’s first reaction to the dog?

4. What is the solution to Kwan’s problem?

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to expression. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

	Words Read	–	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		–		=	
Second Read		–		=	

Name _____

A Change of Heart

“I’m just plain sick of helping Eric with reading,” Jen told her father after school one day. “Sometimes he can be a real brat.”

“Well,” said Jen’s father with a knowing smile, “before you quit, look in your room.”

Jen went into her room and there on her bed was a little handmade book. It was titled “Best Sister.” It was about a boy who gets an “A” in reading and thanks his sister for her help. Jen went to her father. “Maybe I’ll read this book with Eric next,” she said with a smile.

Answer the questions about the text.

1. How can you tell this is realistic fiction?

2. How are the characters in this text like characters from real life?

3. How does the author foreshadow that Jen will change her mind?

4. How does Jen feel about reading to her brother at the end of the text?

Name _____

Read each passage. Find and underline the simile or metaphor. Then identify what is being compared and if it is a simile or a metaphor.

1. Kwan bent down for a closer look. He didn't recognize the animal from any of the families in the neighborhood. The dog was a big fluffy ball of dirt and had no tags, so there was little doubt. The dog was a stray.

Simile or metaphor? _____

What is being compared? _____

2. Uncle Bae was Kwan's least favorite relative, mainly because he was a real grump. He was about as warm as a block of ice.

Simile or metaphor? _____

What is being compared? _____

3. He plopped the loafers right in Uncle Bae's lap. Uncle Bae's face lit up like the sun. It was the first time in a long time that Kwan saw his Uncle Bae smile.

Simile or metaphor? _____

What is being compared? _____

Name _____

A. Read each sentence. Underline the word that has two closed syllables. Write the word on the line and divide the syllables with a slanted line (/).

1. I am a member of the chess club at school. _____

2. The blanket is on top of the sofa. _____

3. The student dug a fossil out of the sand. _____

4. The child is going to get the plastic toy. _____

5. There is a lot of traffic at this time on Friday. _____

B. Read the definitions in the box below. Write the prefix and the root on the lines. Then write the meaning of the prefix on the line below each word.

The Latin prefix *extra-* means “outside” or “beyond.”

The Latin prefix *inter-* means “between.”

1. extracurricular _____

Prefix Meaning: _____

2. interstate _____

Prefix Meaning: _____

3. intermission _____

Prefix Meaning: _____

4. extraordinary _____

Prefix Meaning: _____

Name _____

Evidence is details and examples from a text that support a writer’s ideas. The student who wrote the paragraph below cited evidence to show how the author used problem and solution to develop the plot.

Topic sentence	→	In “The Stray Dog,” the author develops the plot by having Kwan solve the problem of what to do with a stray dog.
Evidence	→	At the beginning of the story, a stray dog follows Kwan home. Kwan’s father tells him that he cannot keep the dog. Kwan’s problem is that he wants to help the dog. His mother tells him to take the dog to his uncle’s house. At first his uncle does not want the dog, but Kwan comes up with a solution that makes his uncle want
Concluding statement	→	to keep the dog. The author used the steps that Kwan takes to solve his problem to make up the story’s events, or the plot, of the story.

Write a paragraph about the text you have chosen. Cite evidence that shows how the author used problem and solution to develop the plot.

Write a topic sentence: _____

Cite evidence from the text: _____

End with a concluding statement: _____

Name _____

A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you think about how you can grab the reader’s attention with a strong beginning.

Draft Model

Dad and I always help each other. Sometimes I help Dad in the kitchen. Other times, Dad helps me work on my bike or finish my homework.

1. How does the narrator help Dad in the kitchen?
2. How does Dad help with the bike?
3. How does Dad help with homework?
4. What opening sentence would introduce the topic and grab the reader’s attention?

B. Now revise the draft by adding a strong beginning that introduces the topic clearly.
