Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Grade 3

Answer Key

The Great Lunchbox Swap

Characters: MIA, a third grader · LEO, a third grader · MS. PARK, their teacher

SCENE 1

(The school cafeteria at lunchtime. MIA and LEO sit at the same table. Each has a blue lunchbox with a yellow handle.)

MIA: *(opening her lunchbox and frowning)* Tuna? I asked Mom for strawberry jam!
LEO: *(opening his lunchbox)* That's weird. My dad always packs me tuna. But this is a jam sandwich. And there's a note. *(reading)* "Have a super day, Mia! Love, Mom."
MIA: *(gasping)* That's my note! You have my lunch!
LEO: Then you have mine. No wonder you got tuna.

MS. PARK: *(walking over)* What seems to be the problem?
MIA and LEO: *(together)* We swapped lunchboxes!
MS. PARK: *(laughing)* That's an easy mistake. They look exactly the same. Trade back, and we'll fix this after lunch.
(MIA and LEO slide the lunchboxes across the table. LEO grins and breaks a cookie in half.)
LEO: Sorry about the tuna. Want half of my grandma's oatmeal cookie?
MIA: *(smiling)* Yes, please!

SCENE 2

(The classroom after lunch. MS. PARK places markers and stickers on a desk.)

MS. PARK: Let's make sure this never happens again. Decorate your lunchboxes so everyone knows whose is whose.
LEO: I'll draw a rocket ship!
MIA: I'll draw my cat, Pickles. *(pausing)* Leo, can I help with your rocket's flames?
LEO: Only if I can help with Pickles's whiskers.
(MIA and LEO laugh and start drawing together. The lights fade.)

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer.

1. Where does Scene 1 take place?

   Answer: b) In the school cafeteria

2. How did the children figure out they had swapped lunchboxes?

   Answer: c) Leo found a note from Mia's mom.

3. Why did the children swap lunchboxes by mistake?

   Answer: a) The lunchboxes looked exactly the same.

4. What did Ms. Park ask the children to do in Scene 2?

   Answer: d) Decorate their lunchboxes

Part B: True or False

Write T for true or F for false.

5. Mia wanted a tuna sandwich for lunch.

   Answer: False

6. Scene 2 takes place in the classroom.

   Answer: True

7. At the end, Mia and Leo help each other draw.

   Answer: True

Part C: Parts of a Play

A play has characters, dialogue (the words characters say), and stage directions (words in parentheses that tell actors what to do or describe the setting). Plays are divided into scenes.

8. Copy one stage direction from the play. What does it tell the actor to do?

   Sample answer: "(opening her lunchbox and frowning)" tells the actor playing Mia to open the lunchbox and look unhappy. (Accept any stage direction with a matching explanation.)

9. How many scenes are in the play? Where does each scene take place?

   There are two scenes. Scene 1 takes place in the cafeteria, and Scene 2 takes place in the classroom.

Part D: Think and Explain

10. How do Mia and Leo feel at the beginning of the play? How do they feel at the end? What changed?

    Sample answer: At the beginning, Mia is upset and confused about her lunch. At the end, Mia and Leo are happy and laughing together. They fixed the mix-up, shared a cookie, and became friends while decorating their lunchboxes.