



Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Grade 10

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chand Raat

Every year, in the week before Eid, my father's tailoring shop in Karachi's Saddar market became the busiest place in the world. Customers crowded the narrow doorway holding folded fabric, and Abbu worked late into the night, his sewing machine humming like a second heartbeat. This year, though, the doorway was quiet.

"Everyone buys ready-made now," Abbu said, pressing a seam flat with the iron. "From the big malls. Twenty minutes, and they are finished." He said it lightly, but I had noticed that he was opening the shop later every morning.

I was fifteen and spent most of my free time teaching myself to code on an old secondhand laptop. I knew exactly what the shop needed. "We should make a page online, Abbu. Photos of your work. People could find us on their phones." He laughed and shook his head. "A tailor's work is measured with a tape, Hira, not a telephone. A customer must stand in front of me. How else will I know that their left shoulder sits lower than the right?"

For a week we argued, and for a week he refused. I decided he was stubborn, stuck in a world that was disappearing around him. Then came Chand Raat, the night before Eid, when the new moon is sighted and the markets stay open until dawn. Just before midnight, Mrs. Siddiqui rushed in with her teenage daughter. The girl's new kameez, bought from a mall that afternoon, hung on her like a sack. "Can you fix it tonight?" Mrs. Siddiqui begged.

Abbu did not hesitate. He had the girl stand on his little wooden stool, measured her twice, and began to pin and cut. As I watched, I noticed something I had never really seen before. He hummed old songs while he worked, and his chalk-dusted hands moved with a confidence that no app could copy. By three in the morning, the kameez fit perfectly. The girl twirled in front of the mirror, and Mrs. Siddiqui pressed a box of sweets into Abbu's hands.

While he folded the scraps of fabric, I quietly took out my phone and photographed his hands: the needle, the thread, the worn measuring tape around his neck. "What are you doing?" he asked. "Showing people what they are missing," I said. He paused for a long moment. Then he smiled. "Make sure you get my good side."

The page went up the next morning. I named it *Haath Ka Kaam*, which means "work of the hands." By the end of Eid, the doorway was crowded again. Customers still came in person to be measured. But now, they found us first.

Glossary: *Eid*: a major Muslim holiday celebrated with new clothes, family visits, and sweets. *Chand Raat*: "night of the moon," the festive night before Eid. *Abbu*: an Urdu word for father. *Kameez*: a long tunic, often worn with loose trousers called shalwar.

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer.

1. Why was the tailoring shop quiet this year?
 - a) Abbu was sick and could not work.
 - b) Many customers were buying ready-made clothes from malls.
 - c) The market was closed for repairs.
 - d) Eid was cancelled that year.
2. Why did Abbu first reject Hira's idea for an online page?
 - a) He did not own a phone.
 - b) He thought it would cost too much money.
 - c) He believed a tailor must measure customers in person.
 - d) He wanted to close the shop.
3. According to the story, what is Chand Raat?
 - a) The festive night before Eid, when the new moon is sighted
 - b) The first morning of Eid
 - c) A type of traditional clothing
 - d) The name of Abbu's shop
4. What did Hira photograph at the end of the night?
 - a) Mrs. Siddiqui's daughter
 - b) The crowded market
 - c) The box of sweets
 - d) Her father's hands at work

Part B: True or False

Write T for true or F for false.

5. Hira was teaching herself to code. _____
6. Mrs. Siddiqui originally bought her daughter's kameez from Abbu's shop. _____

7. After the page went up, customers stopped coming to the shop in person. _____

Part C: Cultural Setting and Point of View

Stories from other cultures are shaped by the customs, values, and daily life of their setting. The narrator's point of view also affects what readers notice and how they judge other characters.

8. Identify two cultural details from the story. Explain how one of them shapes the events or the characters' values.

9. The story is told from Hira's point of view. How does her view of her father change, and how does this affect the way readers see him?

Part D: Think and Explain

10. By the end of the story, both Hira and her father change their minds. What does each of them learn? What theme does the story suggest about tradition and change?
