

The library key

Fiction | 6 questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read once for the main idea. Look back at the passage while answering. Find words that support each answer.

When Amira stepped into the village library, a handwritten sign hung on the reading-room door: CLOSED UNTIL THE KEY IS FOUND. Mr Cole was searching beneath the desk nearby. The reading club was due to start in ten minutes.

Amira remembered seeing him water the plants outside. She checked the watering can, but it held only a little water. Beside it lay his gardening gloves. One glove had a strange lump near the fingertips.

“May I look inside?” she asked. Mr Cole nodded. The key slipped onto her palm.

“I put it there to keep it safe,” he said. “Then I forgot where safe was!”

Amira unlocked the reading-room door while he put the gloves away. Soon, three children hurried in with books under their arms. Mr Cole placed a small bowl beside the desk and dropped the key into it. Before the reading club began, he wrote one word on the bowl: KEYS.

Questions

Choose one answer for each question. You can refer to the passage. The answer notes start on a separate page.

1. When was the reading club due to start?

- A. In ten minutes
- B. In an hour
- C. The next morning
- D. At the weekend

2. Where did Amira find the key?

- A. Inside a gardening glove
- B. On the door
- C. Under the desk
- D. Inside the watering can

3. Why did Amira check near the plants?

- A. She remembered Mr Cole watering them
- B. The sign told her to look there
- C. A child had hidden the key there
- D. She wanted to borrow a gardening book

4. What does “lump” mean here?

- A. A hole in the material
- B. A raised part caused by something inside
- C. A wet patch
- D. A label sewn onto the glove

5. Why did Mr Cole label the bowl?

- A. To remind children to water the plants
- B. To collect coins for new books
- C. To make a clear place for the key
- D. To store his gloves

6. Which sentence best sums up the story?

- A. Children build a new library
- B. A library closes because nobody wants to read
- C. A child uses a remembered detail to find a missing key
- D. A gardener loses all his tools

Answers and explanations

Try the questions before reading these notes. A practice score is not an exam grade.

1. A. In ten minutes

The first paragraph says the club was due to start in ten minutes.

2. A. Inside a gardening glove

The lump was in a glove, and the key slipped out when Amira looked inside.

3. A. She remembered Mr Cole watering them

Her memory of Mr Cole watering the plants gave her a reason to search that area.

4. B. A raised part caused by something inside

The key made the glove bulge near its fingertips.

5. C. To make a clear place for the key

The labelled bowl gives the key an obvious home after he forgot his earlier hiding place.

6. C. A child uses a remembered detail to find a missing key

Amira connects her memory with the search and finds the key so the club can begin.

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