

The Structure of a Story

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10



Quick Review

Stories have a beginning, a middle, and an end. The beginning tells who and where. The middle tells the problem. The end tells how the problem is fixed.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The New Puppy

Mia had wanted a puppy for a long time. One morning, her dad brought home a small brown puppy. Mia named him Buddy. She was so happy that she hugged him close.

But that night, Buddy would not stop crying. He missed his mother. Mia did not know what to do. Buddy cried and cried, and no one could sleep.

Then Mia had an idea. She put a soft blanket and a ticking clock in Buddy's bed. The clock sounded like a heartbeat. Buddy felt safe and warm. Soon he fell fast asleep, and so did Mia.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Read the story. Then answer the questions about the parts of the story.

1. What happens at the BEGINNING of the story?
 - A. Buddy will not stop crying.
 - B. Mia's dad brings home a puppy.
 - C. Mia puts a clock in the bed.
 - D. Buddy falls asleep.
2. Who are the main characters in the story?
 - A. Mia and Buddy
 - B. the teacher and the class
 - C. two cats
 - D. a farmer and a cow



3. What is the problem in the MIDDLE of the story?
 - A. Mia loses Buddy.
 - B. Buddy will not stop crying at night.
 - C. Buddy runs away.
 - D. Mia cannot find a name.
4. Why does Buddy cry at night?
 - A. He is hungry.
 - B. He misses his mother.
 - C. He wants to play.
 - D. He is too hot.
5. How does Mia solve the problem?
 - A. She gives Buddy away.
 - B. She puts a soft blanket and a ticking clock in his bed.
 - C. She stays awake all night.
 - D. She moves Buddy outside.
6. What happens at the END of the story?
 - A. Buddy keeps crying.
 - B. Mia names the puppy.
 - C. Buddy feels safe and falls asleep.
 - D. Dad brings home a puppy.
7. Why did the ticking clock help Buddy?
 - A. It was very loud.
 - B. It sounded like a heartbeat and made him feel safe.
 - C. It woke him up.
 - D. It was a fun toy.
8. The story ends with Buddy still crying all night.
T / F
9. Tell what happens in the MIDDLE of the story in one sentence.

10. Why is it important for a story to have an ending?



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 T F
- 9
- 10

Explanations

1. B	The beginning tells how Mia gets her new puppy.
2. A	The story is about Mia and her puppy, Buddy.
3. B	The middle tells that Buddy cries and no one can sleep.
4. B	Paragraph 2 says Buddy missed his mother.
5. B	Mia's idea was the soft blanket and the ticking clock.
6. C	The end tells how the problem is fixed and Buddy sleeps.
7. B	The clock sounded like a heartbeat, so Buddy felt safe.
8. F	The story ends with Buddy feeling safe and falling asleep.
9.	Answer: Buddy cries at night because he misses his mother, and no one can sleep. The answer should name the problem in the story.
10.	Answer: Example: The ending tells how the problem gets fixed and finishes the story. Accept any answer that shows the ending wraps up the story.



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