

Describing Characters in a Story

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10



Quick Review

Characters have traits (what they are like), feelings (how they feel inside), and motivations (why they do things). Use what characters say, do, and think to describe them.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Diego and the Lost Dog

Diego was walking home from school when he saw a small brown dog under a bush. The dog was shaking and had no collar. Diego knelt down slowly. “It’s okay,” he whispered. The dog let Diego pet its head.

Diego knew his mother would not let him keep a dog. Still, he could not leave it alone in the cold. He wrapped the dog in his jacket and walked it home, even though he was shivering.

At home, Diego’s mother frowned. “We can’t keep it,” she said. Diego nodded. “I know,” he said quietly. “But maybe we can help find its family.” His mother smiled. Together they made a flyer with the dog’s picture.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Choose the best answer for each question. Show your work for short answers.

- Which word BEST describes Diego?
 - selfish
 - kind
 - shy
 - silly
- What does Diego DO that shows he is caring?
 - He yells at the dog.
 - He runs away from the dog.
 - He wraps the dog in his jacket and walks it home.
 - He throws his jacket on the ground.



- 3. Why does Diego whisper to the dog?
 - A. He is too tired to talk.
 - B. He does not want to scare the dog.
 - C. He is angry.
 - D. He is sleepy.
- 4. How does Diego feel about losing his warm jacket?
 - A. He cares more about the dog than his comfort.
 - B. He is upset that he is cold.
 - C. He blames his mother.
 - D. He runs to get a new jacket.
- 5. Diego nods and says “I know” quietly. What does this show about him?
 - A. He is angry at his mother.
 - B. He understands and accepts her answer.
 - C. He is hungry.
 - D. He plans to keep the dog anyway.
- 6. Write TWO words that describe Diego. For each one, give a detail from the story that shows it.

- 7. What is Diego's MOTIVATION for making a flyer?
 - A. He wants a new jacket.
 - B. He wants to keep the dog.
 - C. He wants to help the dog find its family.
 - D. He wants to draw for fun.
- 8. How does Diego's mother CHANGE during the story?
 - A. She frowns the whole time.
 - B. She first frowns, then smiles when she hears his idea.
 - C. She gets angry at Diego.
 - D. She runs away from home.
- 9. How might Diego ACT if he found a hurt bird in his yard? Use what you learned about him.



10. Which detail BEST shows Diego is thoughtful (thinks about others)?
- A. He walks home from school.
 - B. He knows his mother won't keep a dog but still helps it.
 - C. He has a brown jacket.
 - D. He whispers.



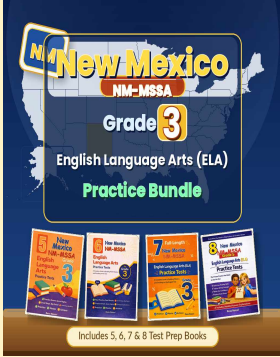
Answer Keys

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Explanations	
1. B	Diego helps a shivering dog even at his own cost — that is a kind trait.
2. C	His action of giving up his jacket shows caring.
3. B	A shaking dog is frightened, so whispering helps it feel safe.
4. A	He keeps walking even though he is shivering — comfort matters less to him than the dog.
5. B	Quiet acceptance shows respect and understanding.
6.	Answer: Example: kind — he gave his jacket to the dog. Responsible — he helped make a flyer to find the family. Two traits with text evidence.
7. C	His idea is “maybe we can help find its family.”
8. B	Paragraph 3 shows her frown turn into a smile after Diego's idea.
9.	Answer: Example: He would help the bird carefully, maybe find a box and call for help, because Diego is kind. Accept any answer that matches Diego's caring, careful character.
10. B	Thinking about both the dog AND his mother's wishes shows thoughtfulness.



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