

Reread

When you read a story for the first time, you may find that some of the events, descriptions, or details are confusing. As you read “Whitewater Adventure,” you can stop and reread difficult parts of the story to check your understanding.



Find Text Evidence

You may not be sure how Nina feels about her older sister, Marta. Reread the first paragraph of “Whitewater Adventure” on page 37.

page37

I don't know about you, but I never pictured my family on a whitewater rafting vacation in Colorado. We had tried rafting several times before with instructors and guides. All of us liked it! I come from a family of excellent athletes, and I sometimes have to work hard at holding my own. I didn't even mind when my sister, Marta, who is fourteen, kept correcting my technique. Because she's three years older, Marta believes it's her mission in life to make sure I do everything perfectly. “Nina, hold your paddle this way. Nina, plant your feet firmly,” she corrects. Honestly, sometimes she's full of herself, although I guess she means well.

At first, I'm not sure what Nina means by “it's her mission in life to make sure I do everything perfectly.” When I reread the paragraph, I can infer that Nina is being sarcastic, because her sister Marta often corrects her.

Your Turn

COLLABORATE



Why is Nina's solution to the problem successful? Reread page 39 to answer the question. As you read other selections, remember to use the strategy Reread.

Problem and Solution

The plot of a story usually involves a problem that the main character or characters in the story need to solve. What the characters want to do or change is called the **problem**. The way the problem is solved is called the **solution**.



Find Text Evidence

When I read the beginning of “Whitewater Adventure” on page 37, I learn that the characters are Nina, Marta, Mom, and Dad, and that they are whitewater rafting on the Colorado River one summer. When I read what Mom said on page 38, I learn about the problem they encounter.

Character

Nina, Marta, Mom, Dad

Setting

Colorado River in summer; a raft

Problem

The raft gets stuck on some rocks.



Events



Solution

Your Turn

COLLABORATE



Reread the remaining section of “Whitewater Adventure.” Complete the rest of your graphic organizer by recording the events that show how the family tries to solve the problem, and then telling their solution.

Go Digital!

Use the interactive graphic organizer

Realistic Fiction

The selection "Whitewater Adventure" is realistic fiction.

Realistic fiction:

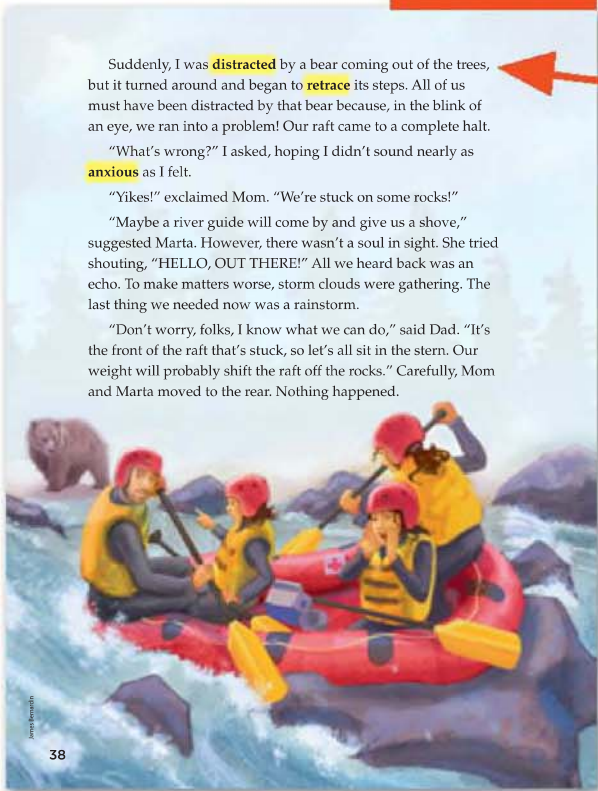
- Tells about characters and events that resemble people and events in real life
- May have adventure involving actions to reach a goal
- May create suspense through dialogue and details



Find Text Evidence

I can tell that "Whitewater Adventure" is realistic fiction. Rafting is an adventure that could happen in real life, and it happens in a place that actually exists. The author also creates suspense.

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Suspense Suspense is what you feel when you are uncertain and excited about how events in a story will turn out. Unexpected events help create suspense.

COLLABORATE



Your Turn

List three details in "Whitewater Adventure" that show the story is realistic fiction. Then identify ways the author builds suspense.

Idioms

An idiom is an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of the individual words in it. To figure out the meaning of an **idiom**, you have to use clues in the sentence or the surrounding sentences.



Find Text Evidence

When I read the end of the first paragraph on page 37, I see an idiom. In the sentences that came before, Marta is always correcting Nina, as if Marta thinks of herself as an expert. The idiom she's full of herself means she thinks she knows everything.

“Nina, hold your paddle this way. Nina, plant your feet firmly,” she corrects. “Honestly, sometimes **she's full of herself**, although I guess she means well.”



Your Turn

COLLABORATE



Use context clues in the sentence or the surrounding sentences to help you figure out the meanings of the following idioms from “Whitewater Adventure.”

holding my own, page 37

in the blink of an eye, page 38

on cloud nine, page 39



Readers to ...

An author’s way of writing is called **style**. Word choice, sentence length, dialogue, and descriptions help create style. An author’s **tone** may be serious, suspenseful, or humorous, for example. Reread the passage below from “Whitewater Adventure” to identify the author’s style and tone.

Expert Model

Style and Tone

How does author’s **style** help us learn about the narrator?

What is the author’s **tone**?

I don’t know about you, but I never pictured my family on a whitewater rafting vacation in Colorado. We had tried rafting several times before with instructors and guides, and all of us liked it! I come from a family of excellent athletes, and I sometimes have had to work hard at holding my own. I didn’t even mind when my sister, Marta, who is fourteen, kept correcting my technique. Because she’s three years older, Marta believes it’s her mission in life to make sure I do everything perfectly.



Writers



Jack wrote a story about the beginning of an exciting adventure. Read Jack's revision of this section.

Student Model

WINTER ADVENTURE

By the time Mark got to his Grandma and Grandpa's farm, there was a ^{blizzard} ~~snow~~ storm. ^{We made it by the skin of our teeth!} "Wow!" said Mark. The next morning, ^{, there} ~~There~~ was more than four feet of snow. ^{and it was still coming down} After ^{put on his coat and} breakfast, Grandpa [,] said to Mark, "The animals have to eat, too. Let's go to the barn [,] kiddo." ^{He picked up his own coat.} "How, Grandpa?" asked Mark. "I can't even see the barn!"

Editing Marks

- ^ Add
- ^ Add a comma.
- ✂ Take out.
- sp Check spelling.
- ≡ Make a capital letter.

Grammar Handbook

Subjects and Predicates

See page 451.

Your Turn

COLLABORATE



- Identify how Jack used description and dialogue to give his story a suspenseful tone.
- Look at the subjects and predicates Jack used.
- Tell how revisions improved his writing.

Go Digital!

Write online in Writer's Workspace