

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Who's Telling the Story

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Missing Muffin

It was snack time in Miss Berry's class, and Harper could not wait to eat her muffin.

She opened her lunchbox—and gasped.

"My muffin is gone!" she said.

Everyone looked up.

"Did it roll away?" asked Josie.

"Maybe it flew away!" joked Mateo.

Harper checked her desk. Nothing. She checked under her chair. Just a pencil.

Then she saw it—a trail of crumbs leading to the reading rug.

She followed the crumbs and peeked behind a book bin.

There sat Max the class hamster, nibbling something sweet.

"My muffin!" Harper laughed.

Miss Berry smiled. "Looks like Max had a snack too."

Harper gave Max a tiny piece of cracker. "One for you, one for me!"



Name: _____

The Missing Muffin

1. Who is telling the story?

- A. A narrator outside the story
- B. Harper
- C. Max the hamster
- D. Miss Berry

2. What shows that the narrator is not a character?

- A. The story uses names like "Harper" and "Josie" instead of "I"
- B. The story happens at school
- C. There is a muffin in the story
- D. It talks about snack time

3. Fill in the blank:

Harper found a trail of _____ leading to the reading rug.

4. How do you know that the narrator is outside the story and not a character?

5. How might the story sound different if Harper were telling it?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: G

Lexile Level: 165L-305L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Mystery (Fiction)

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a fun mystery about a missing muffin in a classroom. As we read, pay attention to who is telling the story. Is it one of the characters? Or is it someone outside the story telling us what's happening?"

Vocabulary: crumbs, trail, peeked, nibbling, reading rug

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever lost a snack or something from your lunchbox?
 2. Who do you think is telling most stories—someone in the story or outside of it?
 3. What clues can help us figure that out?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What words tell us the narrator is outside the story?
 2. How does Harper try to solve the mystery?
 3. How does Max surprise everyone?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How might the story sound different if Harper told it herself?
 2. Why is it helpful to know who is telling the story?
 3. How does the narrator help us know what everyone is doing?
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Activity Idea

Give students a short scene (like "I lost my snack under the table!") and let them retell it two ways: 1st person ("I") and 3rd person ("he" or "she"). Then discuss how the voice and feeling of the story changes depending on who tells it.

