

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Word Choice & Meaning

Read the short story and answer each question.



Max and the Midnight Parade

Max had never been to a midnight parade. In fact, he had never stayed up past 9 p.m.

So when his cousin Diego invited him to the **Moonlight Lantern Parade**, Max wasn't so sure. "You'll love it," Diego said. "The lights, the music, the food—it's the best night of the year!"

Max wasn't convinced. "I think I'd rather sleep."

Still, his parents agreed to let him go. As Max walked through the dark streets, holding Diego's hand, he kept thinking, *This is too late. Too noisy. Too much.*

But then they turned the corner.

Hundreds of paper lanterns floated above the crowd like glowing jellyfish. Drums thumped softly in the distance. A sweet smell of roasted cinnamon nuts filled the air.

Max's eyes widened. "Whoa."

Diego grinned. "Told you."

By the end of the night, Max had danced, eaten three kinds of glowing candy, and even held his own lantern.

On the way home, he whispered, "I hope we go again next year."



Name: _____

Cloudy with a Chance of Jellybeans

1. How does Max feel at the beginning of the story?

- A. Excited to stay up late
- B. Nervous and unsure about the parade
- C. Angry at Diego
- D. Sleepy but ready

2. What changes Max's point of view about the parade?

- A. The music makes him fall asleep
- B. The lanterns, food, and fun make him enjoy the night
- C. Diego forces him to have fun
- D. He only pretends to like it

3. Fill in the blank:

At first, Max thinks the parade will be too _____ and too late at night.

4. How is Max's point of view different at the beginning of the story than at the end? What caused it to change?

5. Would you feel the same way about staying up late for a midnight parade? Why or why not?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: M

Lexile Level: 425L-575L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Introducing the Text

"In this story, we'll follow Max as he experiences something new—a nighttime parade. As we read, we'll compare **Max's point of view** to our own, and notice how his thoughts and feelings change from the beginning to the end."

Vocabulary: parade, lantern, midnight, convinced, nervous

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do you feel about staying up late?
 2. What would you expect at a nighttime parade?
 3. Have you ever done something new that you weren't sure you'd enjoy?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. How does Max describe the parade at the start?
 2. What sights, smells, and sounds help change his mind?
 3. How does Diego support Max?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How is Max's point of view different from yours?
 2. What helped Max change how he felt about the parade?
 3. Why is it important to understand different points of view?
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Activity Idea

Students create a **"Two Sides" point of view chart**. On one side, they write how Max felt before and after the parade. On the other side, they write how *they* would feel before and after attending a midnight parade. Then, discuss how understanding characters' points of view can help us become better readers—and better friends.

