

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Overall Structure

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Forgotten Island

Eliza had always dreamed of sailing to a distant island. The stories she'd heard as a child—of secret beaches, hidden caves, and treasures—had painted the island in her mind as a place of mystery and magic. So, when she found the map tucked in an old book, she knew she had to go.

The island was far off the coast, hidden behind rocky cliffs and treacherous waves. Eliza and her brother, Finn, sailed for days, their boat rocking beneath them as they navigated through a storm. Every chapter of their journey was filled with obstacles: fierce winds, rough seas, and the constant fear of being lost at sea. But each time they were about to turn back, the map would glow faintly, as if urging them forward.

When they finally reached the island, it was nothing like Eliza had imagined. The trees were tall and ancient, their roots twisting deep into the earth. The air smelled of salt and adventure. But there was something else—a strange energy that pulled them toward the heart of the island.

In the center of the island, they found the ruins of an ancient city. A large stone door stood in front of them, covered in moss and vines. Eliza knew that behind that door lay the treasure of the island, not gold or jewels, but something much more valuable—a secret waiting to be uncovered.



Name: _____

The Forgotten Island

1. What is the main structure of the story?

- A. The story is structured around Eliza and Finn's journey, with obstacles and clues leading them to the island's treasure.
- B. The story is about a peaceful island without any challenges.
- C. The story describes only Eliza's childhood memories.
- D. The story is told in one chapter with no change in events.

2. How does the structure of the journey build suspense throughout the story?

- A. Each scene presents a new challenge or obstacle, making the journey feel longer and more mysterious.
- B. The journey is smooth with no major obstacles.
- C. The suspense is created only through the map's glow.
- D. The story jumps immediately to the treasure discovery.

3. Fill in the blank:

Eliza and Finn's journey is full of obstacles, and each one brings them _____ to the island.

4. How does the structure of their journey build excitement and mystery?

5. Why do you think the author chose to reveal the treasure as something more valuable than gold?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: Q

Lexile Level: 735L-885L

Grade Level: 4th Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Adventure / Fantasy

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read about Eliza and Finn as they journey to a mysterious island. As we read, we'll track how the structure of the story builds excitement and how each scene contributes to the overall plot. Think about how the obstacles they face lead them closer to their goal."

Vocabulary: treacherous, glow, ancient, ruins, obstacles

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you think makes a journey exciting in a story?
 2. How do you imagine an island full of mystery might be structured?
 3. What do you think treasure in a story might symbolize?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What challenges do Eliza and Finn face on their journey?
 2. How does the map's glow influence their decisions?
 3. What role does the setting play in the suspense of the story?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How does the structure of the journey keep the reader engaged?
 2. What does the treasure represent in the context of the story?
 3. How do the obstacles help reveal the themes of the story?
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Activity Idea

Ask students to write a short story about a journey of their own, using obstacles and a treasure to structure their narrative. Encourage them to build suspense with each challenge and to include a surprising reveal about what the "treasure" really is.

