Name: _____ Date: _____

The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

Circle group

On the last day of pottery class, Mr. Okafor opened the kiln. The whole room leaned in. Inside sat twenty glazed bowls. Wen found hers fast. It was meant to be sea green. But it was a muddy brown, with a drip of blue down one side.

"That's not mine," said Wen. "Mine was green."

Across the table, Dalia held a bright, shiny green bowl. She frowned. "My initial is on the bottom of this one," she said. "But I painted mine brown."

They looked at each other. Wen had painted green. Dalia had painted brown. The glazes must have been in the wrong jars. Each girl had used the wrong one.

"We each wanted what the other got," Wen said slowly.

Dalia turned the brown bowl in her hands. Under the lights, the blue drip glowed like a river. "Mine is kind of beautiful," she said.

"Mine too," said Wen. She hugged the green one. "But this is just what I wanted."

They fixed it the easy way. Wen traded for the green bowl. Dalia kept the brown one. At home, Wen set her bowl on a windowsill. When the sun hit it, she thought how a mistake had helped the right bowl find the right girl.

Questions

1. What color was Wen's bowl meant to be?

_____

_____

2. What color did Wen's bowl come out as?

_____

_____

3. How did the girls know the green bowl was Dalia's?

_____

_____

4. What did Mr. Okafor do on the last day?

_____

_____

5. What probably caused the mix-up?

_____

_____

6. How did Dalia feel about the brown bowl at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

kiln: a very hot oven used to harden clay
glazed: covered with a shiny coat that melts on pottery
initial: the first letter of a name

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

Triangle group

On the last day of pottery class, Mr. Okafor opened the enormous kiln, and the whole room leaned in to see what the fire had done. Inside sat twenty glazed bowls. Wen found hers immediately, but it was supposed to be sea green, and it had come out a muddy brown, with a drip of blue running down one side.

"That's not mine," said Wen. "Mine was green."

Across the table, Dalia was holding a bowl that was bright, glossy green, and she was frowning at it. "This one has my initial scratched on the bottom," she said, "but I remember painting mine brown."

They looked at each other. Wen had painted green, and Dalia had painted brown. Somehow, the labels on the glaze jars had been switched, and each girl had carefully used the wrong color.

"We both wanted what the other one got," Wen said slowly.

Dalia turned her brown bowl in her hands. Under the classroom lights, the blue drip glowed like a river winding down a hillside. "Honestly, mine is kind of beautiful," she said.

"Mine too," said Wen. She hugged the green one. "But this one is exactly what I wanted."

They solved the problem in the simplest possible way. Wen traded for the green bowl, and Dalia kept her brown one. At home, Wen put it on a windowsill, and every time the sun touched it, she thought about how a mistake had helped the right bowl find the right person.

Questions

1. What color was Wen's bowl supposed to be?

_____

_____

2. What color did Wen's bowl come out of the kiln?

_____

_____

3. How did the girls know the green bowl belonged to Dalia?

_____

_____

4. What did Mr. Okafor do on the last day of class?

_____

_____

5. What probably caused the mix-up?

_____

_____

6. How did Dalia feel about the brown bowl in the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

kiln: a very hot oven used to harden clay
glazed: covered with a shiny coat that melts on pottery
glossy: smooth and shiny
initial: the first letter of a name

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

Square group

On the final day of pottery class, Mr. Okafor swung open the kiln door, and the entire room leaned in to look. Inside sat twenty freshly glazed bowls. Wen spotted hers immediately. It was supposed to be the color of the sea, but it had emerged a muddy brown, with a single drip of blue running down one side.

"That's not mine," said Wen. "Mine was supposed to be green."

Across the table, Dalia was holding a bowl that was a bright, glossy green, and she was frowning at it. "This one has my initial scratched into the bottom," she said, "but I'm positive I painted mine brown."

They stared at each other. Wen had painted green, and Dalia had painted brown. Somehow the glazes had been switched between their jars, and each girl had unknowingly used the wrong one.

"We each ended up with what the other one wanted," Wen said slowly.

Dalia turned her brown bowl over in her hands. Under the classroom lights, the blue drip glowed like a river winding down a hillside. "Honestly, mine is kind of beautiful," she said.

"Mine is too," said Wen, hugging the green one to her chest. "But this one is exactly what I had imagined."

They settled it the simple way. Wen traded for the green bowl, and Dalia kept her brown one. Back home, Wen placed it on a sunny windowsill, and whenever the light struck it, she remembered how a mistake had helped the right bowl find the right person.

Questions

1. What color was Wen's bowl supposed to be?

_____

_____

2. What color did Wen's bowl actually turn out to be?

_____

_____

3. How did the girls figure out the green bowl belonged to Dalia?

_____

_____

4. What did Mr. Okafor do on the final day of class?

_____

_____

5. What most likely caused the mix-up?

_____

_____

6. How did Dalia come to feel about her brown bowl?

_____

_____

Words to know

kiln: a very hot oven used to harden clay
glazed: covered with a shiny coat that melts on pottery
glossy: smooth and shiny
initial: the first letter of a name

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

Easier · 208 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.4

1. Sea green.
2. A muddy brown with a drip of blue.
3. It had Dalia's initial on the bottom.
4. He opened the kiln.
5. The glazes were in the wrong jars, so each girl used the wrong color.
6. She thought it was beautiful and was happy to keep it.

Triangle: The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

This passage · 247 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.6

1. Sea green.
2. A muddy brown with a drip of blue.
3. It had Dalia's initial scratched on the bottom.
4. He opened the kiln.
5. The labels on the glaze jars were switched, so each girl used the wrong color.
6. She thought it was beautiful and was happy to keep it.

Square: The Kiln Shelf Mix-Up

Harder · 253 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.1

1. Sea green.
2. A muddy brown with a single drip of blue.
3. It had Dalia's initial scratched into the bottom.
4. He opened the kiln door.
5. The glazes were switched between the jars, so each girl used the wrong color.
6. She decided it was beautiful and was glad to keep it.