Name: _____ Date: _____

The Night Market Stall With No Number

Circle group

The night market near Sunil's house had one hundred stalls. Each had a painted number over its awning. Sunil and his sister Anika knew most of them. So they stopped when they saw a tiny cart between stall forty-two and stall forty-three. It had no number at all.

The cart sold small brass keys on a green cloth. A sign said, "One key opens one thing. Choose carefully."

"That is a riddle," Anika whispered. "Which key do we take?"

The old man at the cart just smiled. Sunil saw that every key had a tiny number on its handle. Some numbers matched the stalls nearby. He picked up key fifty-eight. "Maybe a key opens the stall with the same number," he said.

They ran to stall fifty-eight. It was a cheerful tea seller with a stack of wooden boxes. Sunil held up the key. The tea seller laughed and pointed to the smallest box. It had a lock. Inside were a paper coupon for a free cup of tea and a note. The note said, "For the first people who figured it out."

The founders of the market began this game fifty years ago. It is a quiet tradition, and many visitors never see it. The old man changes the prizes every season.

Sunil and Anika shared the tea on a bench. Lanterns swung above the crowd.

Questions

1. What made the small cart unusual?

_____

_____

2. What did the cart sell?

_____

_____

3. How did Sunil pick which stall to try?

_____

_____

4. What did the key open?

_____

_____

5. What did the sign mean by one key opens one thing?

_____

_____

6. Why do many visitors never see the game?

_____

_____

Words to know

awning: a cover that sticks out over a shop to give shade
riddle: a puzzle that must be solved by thinking
coupon: a paper that can be traded for something free or cheaper
founders: the people who start something
tradition: a custom that people have kept for a long time

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 Night Market Stall With No Number

Triangle group

The night market near Sunil's house had one hundred stalls, each marked with a painted number above its awning, and he and his sister Anika knew almost every one of them by heart. When they spotted a tiny cart tucked between stall forty-two and stall forty-three, with nothing painted on it at all, they stopped to stare in complete surprise.

The cart sold only small brass keys, which were laid out in rows on a green cloth, and a sign propped beside them announced, "One key opens one thing. Choose carefully."

"That sounds like a riddle," Anika whispered. "How are we supposed to know which key to take?"

The old man behind the cart only smiled and said nothing. Sunil noticed that every key had a tiny number stamped into its handle, and that several of the numbers matched the stalls around them. He picked up the key marked fifty-eight and suggested, "Maybe a key opens the stall that carries the same number."

They hurried to stall fifty-eight, a cheerful tea seller with a stack of wooden boxes. When Sunil held up the key, the tea seller laughed and pointed to the smallest box, which was fastened with a lock. Inside were a folded paper coupon good for a free cup of tea and a note that read, "For the first people who figured it out."

It turned out that the market's founders had started this game fifty years earlier, a tradition so quiet that most visitors never noticed it. The old man changed the prizes every season, and he had never been disappointed by a curious child.

Sunil and Anika shared the tea on a bench, watching the lanterns swing gently above the crowd.

Questions

1. What made the small cart unusual?

_____

_____

2. What did the cart sell?

_____

_____

3. How did Sunil choose which stall to try?

_____

_____

4. What did the key open?

_____

_____

5. What did the sign mean by saying one key opens one thing?

_____

_____

6. Why do most visitors never notice the game?

_____

_____

Words to know

awning: a cover that sticks out over a shop to give shade
riddle: a puzzle that must be solved by thinking
coupon: a paper that can be traded for something free or cheaper
founders: the people who start something
tradition: a custom that people have kept for a long time

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 Night Market Stall With No Number

Square group

The night market near Sunil's house contained one hundred stalls, each identified by a painted number above its awning, and he and his sister Anika knew almost every one of them by heart. Consequently, when they spotted a tiny cart tucked between stall forty-two and stall forty-three, with nothing painted on it whatsoever, they stopped to stare in complete surprise.

The cart sold only small brass keys, which were arranged in tidy rows on a green cloth, and a sign propped beside them announced, "One key opens one thing. Choose carefully."

"That sounds like a riddle," Anika whispered. "How are we supposed to know which key to take?"

The old man behind the cart merely smiled and said nothing. Sunil observed that every key had a tiny number stamped into its handle, and that several of those numbers matched the stalls surrounding them. He picked up the key marked fifty-eight and proposed, "Perhaps a key opens the stall that carries the same number."

They hurried to stall fifty-eight, a cheerful tea seller with a tall stack of wooden boxes. When Sunil held up the key, the tea seller laughed and pointed to the smallest box, which was fastened with a lock. Inside were a folded paper coupon good for a free cup of tea and a note that read, "For the first people who figured it out."

It turned out that the market's founders had begun this game fifty years earlier, a tradition so quiet that most visitors never noticed it. The old man changed the prizes with every season, and he had never once been disappointed by a curious child.

Sunil and Anika shared the tea on a bench, watching the lanterns sway gently above the crowd.

Questions

1. What made the small cart unlike the other stalls?

_____

_____

2. What did the cart offer for sale?

_____

_____

3. How did Sunil decide which stall to try?

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_____

4. What did the key open?

_____

_____

5. What did the sign mean when it said one key opens one thing?

_____

_____

6. Why had most visitors never noticed the game?

_____

_____

Words to know

awning: a cover that sticks out over a shop to give shade
riddle: a puzzle that must be solved by thinking
coupon: a paper that can be traded for something free or cheaper
founders: the people who start something
tradition: a custom that people have kept for a long time

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 Night Market Stall With No Number

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

Circle: The Night Market Stall With No Number

Easier · 231 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.1

1. It had no painted number and sat between stalls forty-two and forty-three.
2. Small brass keys on a green cloth.
3. The number on his key matched a stall number.
4. A small locked box at the tea stall that held a coupon for free tea.
5. Each key fits only one lock, so you must find the right stall.
6. It is a quiet tradition, and many people walk past the cart.

Triangle: The Night Market Stall With No Number

This passage · 289 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 7.8

1. It had no painted number, and it sat between stalls forty-two and forty-three.
2. Small brass keys laid out on a green cloth.
3. The number stamped on his key matched a stall number.
4. A small locked box at the tea stall holding a coupon for a free cup of tea.
5. Each key fits only one lock, so you must match it to the right stall.
6. It is a quiet tradition, and many people walk past the cart without stopping.

Square: The Night Market Stall With No Number

Harder · 292 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 8.4

1. It had no painted number, and it sat between stalls forty-two and forty-three.
2. Small brass keys arranged in rows on a green cloth.
3. The number stamped on his key matched a stall number.
4. A small locked box at the tea stall containing a coupon for a free cup of tea.
5. Each key fits only one lock, so it must be matched to the correct stall.
6. It was a quiet tradition, and many people simply walked past the cart.