

# READING

## Practice

A parent or tutor should read to the student and help the student to record their answers.

The middle of a story is called the **plot**.

There is usually a *problem* in the middle of a story.

Listen to the story. What is the *problem* in the middle of this story?

Carla loves to color. It is one of her favorite things to do. She would color all day long if she could. When it was almost time to start kindergarten, Carla got a brand new box of crayons. She took the new crayon box to her room. There are so many colors! She found one of her coloring books, and opened the new box of crayons for the first time.

Carla took out the red crayon. The tips of the new crayons were more pointed than her old ones. They made nice thin lines. Carla started to color. She colored and colored with the new red crayon. Soon Carla noticed that the tip of the new red crayon was starting to wear down.

Carla looked at the new crayons. She looked at her old crayons in their old yellow box. Then she put the red crayon back in the new box. She decided she would save her new crayons for school.

1. What is the *problem* in the middle of this story?

Circle the best answer.

Carla wants a bigger box of crayons for kindergarten.

Carla doesn't like her new crayons.

Carla doesn't want to wear down her new crayons.

Listen to the story. What is the *problem* in the middle of this story?

It was only one week until Julie's birthday. Julie and her mom were in the kitchen. Julie's mom asked her what kind of birthday cake she would like to have. Julie thought for a long time. Some of her friends liked white cake. Others liked chocolate cake. Julie wanted everyone to like her birthday cake.

Then Julie had an idea. She asked her mom to make a birthday cake with chocolate cake on the bottom, white cake in the middle, and a strawberry cupcake on top, just for the birthday girl—Julie! All of Julie's friends enjoyed their cake, and Julie enjoyed hers the most of all.

2. What is the *problem* in the middle of this story?  
Circle the best answer.

Julie wanted to have a chocolate cake for her birthday.

Julie wanted all of her friends to like her birthday cake.

Julie's mother made a white birthday cake instead of a chocolate one.

3. What is one of your favorite stories?

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4. What is the *problem* in the middle of that story?

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