

Read the start of a story about a girl who agrees to do a favor for her mom.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

The Mix-Up *by Frank Auster*

Jenna told her mom she was going to take a bike ride around the neighborhood. “Great!” said her mom. “Could you deliver these packages for me? This one is for your great aunt Sally, and this one is for your cousin Joey.” Her mom explained that Sally and Joey had birthdays coming up next week.

“No problem,” said Jenna. They lived in a small town, so no one lived far from each other. Jenna tucked the packages in her backpack and headed out.

(continued)

Explore how to answer this question: “How would you summarize what’s happened in the story so far?”

Remember, a summary includes only the most important details and events.

Reread the passage. Look for details someone needs to know to understand what has happened so far. Fill in the details on the lines provided.

Who is in the story so far? _____

Where does the story take place? _____

When does this part of the story take place? This part of the story takes place during the week before Sally and Joey’s _____.

What has happened so far? Jenna is going out for a _____, and Jenna’s mom asks Jenna to _____.

On the lines below, use the details you wrote down to write a summary of the story so far.



Continue reading about Jenna and the two packages. Use the Close Reading and the Hint to help you answer the question.

Close Reading

When does Jenna realize she gave Sally the wrong present?

Underline what Jenna sees that shows her the mistake she made.

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When Jenna arrived at Sally's house, she realized neither package had a name on it. But she was sure Sally's was the one in the striped wrapping paper. She gave her the present and then dropped off Joey's.

The following week, Sally invited Jenna and her mom over for lunch. Sally answered the door wearing a baseball jersey. "How did you know this is my new favorite team?" she said smiling.

"Oh, just a guess," said Jenna's mom. She glared at Jenna, who quickly recognized her mistake.

Circle the correct answer.

Which is the best summary of this part of the story?

- A** Jenna arrives at Sally's house and realizes neither package is labeled, but she is sure the striped one is Sally's.
- B** When Jenna and her mom go over to Sally's for lunch, Sally opens the door wearing a baseball jersey.
- C** Jenna mixes up the packages but doesn't realize until later, when Sally is wearing the present that was for Joey.
- D** Jenna gives Sally the present in the striped paper, which turns out to be a baseball jersey of her favorite team.

Hint

Which choice tells only the most important details to know?

Show Your Thinking

Look at the answer you chose. Explain how you figured out which details best sum up what happens in this part of "The Mix-Up."
