Subject: English Language Arts

Grades: 11–12

Linkage Level: Proximal Precursor

Essential Element: Analyze a text to determine its meaning and cite textual evidence to support explicit and implicit understandings.

Node Assessed: Can determine a narrative's explicit meaning
Read the story. After you read the story, you will read the story again and answer the questions.

The Post Office
Jim was a boy. Jim was ten years old. Jim lived in Nebraska with his grandparents.

Jim had a horse named Dude. Jim rode his horse to the post office twice a week.
Jim rode to the post office to pick up mail for his grandparents and deliver messages to their neighbors.

Jim and his horse rode over the prairie to the post office. They enjoyed riding across the prairie together.
Jim and his horse took their time. Jim did not wear a watch and did not worry about what time it was.

Jim and his horse rode past bright yellow sunflowers that grew beside the road.
Jim remembered a story from the past.

Jim remembered a story about people who traveled across Nebraska and planted sunflowers as they went.
Jim and his horse passed corn fields and a few large trees. Jim liked to look for nests that birds made in the trees.

Jim and his horse visited a big prairie dog town where the prairie dogs lived.
The prairie dogs dug holes in the ground and lived in them when they were finished.

Small brown owls also lived underground with the prairie dogs.
The owls built their nests in the same holes where the prairie dogs lived.

Jim thought about his friend Antonia. Antonia had visited the prairie dog town with him before.
Jim and Antonia had sat and watched the prairie dogs and brown owls together.

Jim and Antonia had not seen any shiny pools of water for the prairie dogs to drink.
Jim had thought that the prairie dogs had to dig deep into the ground to find water.

Antonia was a bright and clever girl.
Antonia had thought that the prairie dogs licked water drops off the ground early in the morning like rabbits did.

Jim and his horse arrived at the post office. When they had their mail, they turned around and made the trip home.
Jim and his horse were tired when their trip to the post office was over.

Jim was excited for his next trip to the post office.
This is the end of the story. Now, read the story again and answer the questions.

The Post Office
Jim was a boy. Jim was ten years old. Jim lived in Nebraska with his grandparents.

Jim had a horse named Dude. Jim rode his horse to the post office twice a week.
Jim rode to the post office to pick up mail for his grandparents and deliver messages to their neighbors.

Jim and his horse rode over the prairie to the post office. They enjoyed riding across the prairie together.
Why did Jim enjoy going to the post office?

Jim liked riding his horse.
Jim wanted to be a mailman.
Jim hoped to get a letter from a friend.

Jim and his horse took their time. Jim did not wear a watch and did not worry about what time it was.
Jim and his horse rode past bright yellow sunflowers that grew beside the road.

Jim remembered a story from the past.
Jim remembered a story about people who traveled across Nebraska and planted sunflowers as they went.

Jim and his horse passed corn fields and a few large trees. Jim liked to look for nests that birds made in the trees.
Jim and his horse visited a big prairie dog town where the prairie dogs lived.

What happened when Jim rode to the post office?

Jim visited a prairie dog town.
Jim stopped at a store to get a watch.
Jim wanted to get to the post office quickly.
The prairie dogs dug holes in the ground and lived in them when they were finished.

Small brown owls also lived underground with the prairie dogs.
The owls built their nests in the same holes where the prairie dogs lived.

Jim thought about his friend Antonia. Antonia had visited the prairie dog town with him before.
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Jim and his horse arrived at the post office. When they had their mail, they turned around and made the trip home.
Jim and his horse were tired when their trip to the post office was over.

Jim was excited for his next trip to the post office.
What is the meaning of the story?

Jim was a bright and clever boy.
Jim and his horse saw many things on their trip.
Jim passed corn to get to the post office every day.

Review: ELA.RL.11-12.1.PP

Are you done?
Red boxes mean you are not done. Ask your teacher for help.
Blue dots mean you are done. You can choose end.

Answered □ Not answered
Are you sure you want to end?

YES  NO