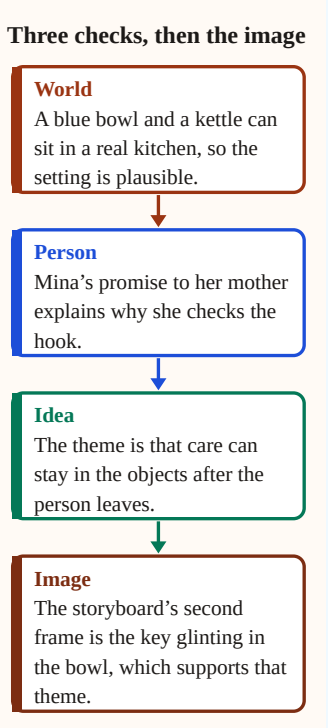
English Language Arts 10-1

Unit 2: Comprehend and respond to texts

Evaluating texts with criteria

Plausible detail

- Mina is in the kitchen she shares with Leo. The spare key sits in a blue bowl, the kettle whistles, and Leo's backpack is off the hook. She promised their mother she would keep the house ready.
- World. A blue bowl and a kettle can sit in a real kitchen, so the setting is plausible.
- Person. Mina's promise to her mother explains why she checks the hook.
- Idea. The theme is that care can stay in the objects after the person leaves.
- Image. A storyboard is a row of sketched frames for a short film of a scene. In a storyboard of this kitchen, the second frame is the key glinting in the bowl, which supports that theme.



Plausibility checks and literary terms

- Check the world: could these objects sit in a real place?
- Check the person: do the actions come from one motive?
- Check the idea: does a quoted detail support it, and which term names the craft?

Key terms

criteria

The checks you use to judge a text, such as whether the detail is believable, relevant, and enough to support the idea.

verisimilitude

The sense that a made world could happen, as when a kettle and a blue bowl belong in a real kitchen.

artistry

The skill of the making, visible when tone, image, and structure do the job the text set out to do.

Criteria card

- World: a blue bowl and a kettle are ordinary kitchen objects, so the setting is plausible.
- Person: Mina lifts the kettle and checks the hook because of one promise, so the character stays consistent.
- Idea: care remains in the objects. The key in the bowl and the missing backpack are relevant support.

Example

- A second storyboard shows Mina on the late bus as it passes her house, while she decides whether to ring the bell and get off. Frame 1: a grey window and a sleeve wiping a circle. Frame 2: through the circle, the key glinting in the blue bowl at home. Frame 3: the circle fogging over, Mina's hand still on the bell.
- World: a bus window and a kitchen bowl can exist together when the bus passes the house. Person: her hand stays on the bell while she is still deciding. Idea: the key still ties her to that kitchen.
- The glinting key is the image that supports the idea.

Revising a weak frame

- A fourth frame shows a fireworks burst over the same bus, with no link to the key, the bowl, or the bell. Mina is still at the window.
- Say which check fails, world, person, or idea, and replace the fireworks with a detail that supports her hesitation.

Review

- Amira stands under one floodlight with her skates in a bag and tells the dark boards she is fine. The ice is empty.
- Judge the world and the person with one detail each, then use tone or image to praise one choice.