

# 5th Grade Reading: Moving Day - Answer Key

5th Grade - theme, character change, and inference | 20 minutes

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## Read the passage:

Maya pressed her forehead against the car window and watched her old town shrink behind her. Her family was moving three hundred miles away, and she was sure nothing good could come of it. At her new school, everything felt wrong. The hallways were too bright, the lunchroom too loud, and she did not know a single name. For a week, Maya ate lunch alone and counted the days until summer. On Friday, a girl named Lena slid into the seat across from her. 'You're the one who likes to draw, right? I saw your notebook.' Maya nodded, surprised. Lena grinned. 'Our art club needs people. We're painting a mural for the library.' Maya hesitated - then she thought of the blank wall and all the colors she could add. 'Okay,' she said. 'I'll come.' By the end of the month, Maya had paint on her sleeves, three new friends, and a town that was starting to feel like home. She still missed her old street, but she was glad she had said yes.

## Read the story. Then answer each question in a complete sentence, using evidence from the text.

1. How did Maya feel about moving at the beginning?

**Answer: Unhappy and sure nothing good could come of it.**

2. What made the new school feel 'wrong' at first?

**Answer: The hallways were too bright, the lunchroom too loud, and she knew no one.**

3. What invitation did Lena give Maya?

**Answer: To join the art club and help paint a mural for the library.**

4. How did Maya change by the end of the story?

**Answer: She made friends and began to feel at home, glad she had said yes. (Sample answer.)**

5. What is the theme of the story?

**Answer: Giving new things a chance can turn something scary into something good. (Sample answer.)**

## Challenge

6. Find evidence that Maya still has mixed feelings at the end.

**Answer: 'She still missed her old street, but she was glad she had said yes.'**