

Name _____

The Mystery of the Vanishing Homework

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Teamwork played a crucial role in solving the mystery. Mia's skills as a detective helped in observing and gathering evidence, Jake's technical knowledge allowed them to set up the hidden camera, Olivia's attention to detail helped spot the glitter on the desks, and Ben's humor lightened the mood during their investigation. Teamwork is important in problem-solving because it allows individuals to pool their strengths, ideas, and resources to tackle challenges more effectively than they could individually.
2. Mr. Jenkins' love for humor and pranks played a pivotal role in the resolution because it was his mischievous actions that created the mystery in the first place. His motivation to engage in playful mischief likely stems from a desire to bring joy and laughter to others. People like Mr. Jenkins may enjoy making others laugh and find satisfaction in creating a sense of fun and surprise.
3. Humor played a central role in the story, as Mr. Jenkins' pranks and the students' reactions added a playful element to the mystery. Instead of escalating tension, humor lightened the situation, turning it into a lighthearted adventure. Laughter brought the students and Mr. Jenkins closer together, creating a bond and making the experience memorable. Humor can often defuse tense situations and bring people together.
4. [This answer will vary depending on the reader's personal experience. Readers can share their own stories of working with friends to solve a mystery or problem and discuss how teamwork influenced the outcome and what they learned from the experience.]

