

Name _____

Character Comparisons

Passage:

The wind howled outside as the storm rolled in. Ava stood near the window, arms crossed, watching the trees bend with each gust. “We should cancel the hike,” she said, her voice firm. “It’s not safe.”

Jared, sitting on the couch tying his boots, glanced up with a shrug. “We’ll be fine. We’ve hiked in worse weather.”

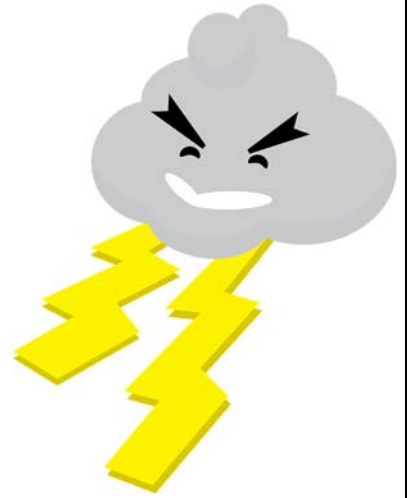
Ava turned sharply toward him. “That’s not the point. We need to think about everyone in the group, not just ourselves.”

Jared sighed and stood. “Look, if you don’t want to go, stay here. I’m not scared of a little rain.”

“It’s not about fear,” Ava replied, exasperated. “It’s about being responsible.”

Jared grabbed his backpack and opened the door, letting in a gust of cold air. “I’m going. You coming or not?”

Ava hesitated, then shook her head and stepped away from the door.



Questions:

1. How do Ava and Jared differ in how they handle risk?
2. What motivates Ava’s decision to stay behind?
3. What motivates Jared’s decision to go forward with the hike?
4. Who do you think is showing stronger leadership in this situation? Why?
5. Based on this passage, which character would you rather have as a teammate during a crisis? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text.