

## Triple Take Answer Key

### First Read - Plot:

1. Elena is at a train station, preparing to leave her town for somewhere new.
2. She feels nervous and conflicted: excited to go, but also weighed down by hesitation.

### Second Read - Language:

3. Strong words/phrases: *"screeched," "knuckles white," "chest tightened," "church bell rang," "doors of the train glowed with warm light."*
4. The church bell represents the familiar past, tradition, and her hometown. The glowing train doors symbolize opportunity, change, and the future.

### Third Read - Theme:

5. A possible theme is: **Leaving behind the familiar is difficult, but new opportunities require courage.**
6. Supporting lines: *"Her chest tightened," "the church bell rang, echoing through the streets she had always known," and "the open doors of the train glowed with warm light, promising something new."*

### Teacher Notes:

- Students may interpret the theme differently (e.g., "Growth requires sacrifice," "Change is both frightening and hopeful"). Accept any interpretation supported with text evidence.
- Encourage students to write their three sets of answers in three different colors to emphasize how meaning deepens with each reread.
- Extension: Have students write a brief journal entry as if Elena is reflecting on her decision a year later, showing how the theme carried into her future.