

Name _____

The Stranger at the Gate Answer Key

Sample Paragraph:

The stranger was tall and narrow, like a walking shadow stretched by the fading sun. A long, tattered coat fluttered around their legs, worn at the edges like it had traveled through storms and dust. Their wide-brimmed hat cast a shadow over most of their face, but a single silver eye gleamed from underneath—sharp, unblinking. They didn't hurry, but each step felt heavy, as if the road itself knew they were coming. The air seemed to grow colder as they approached, and the usual evening chatter of the town had dissolved into silence. Something about them felt ancient, not just old, and I couldn't tell if they brought danger or warning. I thought, maybe, they were a messenger—or a hunter—searching for something... or someone.