

## Friendship Threads Answer Key

### Possible Themes (students may phrase differently):

- Misunderstandings can weaken friendships, but honest communication restores and strengthens them.
- True friendships can survive challenges if both sides are willing to talk and listen.
- Assumptions can create distance, but openness brings people back together.

### Supporting Evidence (examples students may cite):

1. Jordan felt ignored when Alex walked past with his teammates.
2. Both Alex and Jordan admitted they thought the other was too busy and didn't care anymore.
3. They cleared up the misunderstanding at the library.
4. They made new plans together after realizing they still valued the friendship.

### Short Response - Model Answer:

The story shows how small misunderstandings can cause big problems in friendships. Jordan assumed Alex didn't care anymore, and Alex assumed Jordan was too busy. Their assumptions made them drift apart, but once they talked honestly, they understood each other better. This proves the theme that honest communication is the key to keeping friendships strong.

### Teacher Notes

- **Skill emphasis:** Students must identify an abstract message (theme) and back it up with **concrete evidence** from the text.
- Accept different wordings of the theme if supported with accurate evidence.
- Extension activity: Have students write a one-paragraph reflection on a time when a misunderstanding affected a relationship in their own life and how it was resolved.