Name _____

Maya's Choice Answer Key

1. **Why did Maya hesitate when she saw the boy?**
    - She was torn between fulfilling her own wish (buying the watercolors) and helping someone in need.
2. **What do her actions suggest about her values or priorities?**
    - They show she values kindness and empathy over personal desires. She prioritized helping the boy over her own dream.
3. **If Maya had chosen to buy the watercolor set, what might that have revealed about her motives instead?**
    - It might have shown that she values personal ambition, art, and self-expression above others' needs at that moment. This wouldn't necessarily be selfish, but it would highlight different priorities.
4. **How does Maya's decision affect how we, as readers, view her character?**
    - Readers are likely to admire her generosity and selflessness. Her choice deepens our understanding of her as compassionate and empathetic.

Teacher Note:

Encourage students to recognize that motives are often complex. Maya's hesitation reflects an internal conflict, which is a key moment to practice **inferential comprehension** or reading between the lines to uncover a character's deeper reasoning.

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