

River Reflections Answer Key

1. Why did Jamal feel frustrated about the river?

- *Sample Answer:* Jamal felt frustrated because the water level was dropping, the fish were disappearing, and his favorite place to fish was being harmed.
- *Teacher Note:* Look for answers linking his feelings to both the water level and the fish population.

2. How did Jamal's actions show that he cared about his community?

- *Sample Answer:* He researched solutions, spoke at a town meeting, and encouraged people to protect the river, showing his concern for the environment and his neighbors.
- *Teacher Note:* Accept responses that highlight initiative and responsibility.

3. Why do you think the neighbors supported Jamal's ideas?

- *Sample Answer:* They likely saw that his concerns affected everyone and believed his ideas could help protect the town's river.
- *Teacher Note:* Students should connect neighbor support to shared community interest.

4. How did the town's new rules help the river?

- *Sample Answer:* The rules limited the factory's water use, which allowed the river to refill and helped the fish return.
- *Teacher Note:* Answers should emphasize cause/effect between rules and recovery.

5. Why is it important for young people like Jamal to speak up about problems?

- *Sample Answer:* Young people can bring new ideas, inspire others, and show that everyone can make a difference, no matter their age.
- *Teacher Note:* Encourage reasoning beyond the text—answers should show transfer of lesson.