

Ivy-Covered Secrets Answer Key

1. Setting clues (highlighted words/phrases):

- "old library"
- "corner of Maple Street"
- "tall stone walls covered in ivy"
- "rows of wooden shelves stretched to the ceiling"
- "filled with dusty books"
- "air smelled faintly of paper and ink"
- "glow of a single lamp lit the reading table"
- "rain tapped gently against the tall windows"

2. Three details (examples):

- The library has stone walls with ivy.
- The shelves are tall and filled with dusty books.
- There is rain tapping on the tall windows.

3. Mood (sample answers):

- Cozy: because of the warm glow of the lamp and the sound of gentle rain.
- Mysterious: because of the old building, dusty books, and dim lighting.

Teacher Notes

- Students should identify **descriptive setting phrases**, not character actions.
- Accept any reasonable mood choice as long as students support it with evidence from the text.
- To differentiate: struggling readers may be given a shorter passage with fewer setting details, while advanced students can expand by writing how the setting might influence a character's feelings.
- Encourage students to circle or highlight directly in the text before listing details; this builds a strong habit of **text evidence hunting**.