

Name _____



Proof Of Character

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Pay attention to the **choices** the main character makes when faced with a challenge. After reading, identify the **theme** (the life lesson or message) you think the story conveys. Reread the passage and **underline three pieces of textual evidence:** specific lines, actions, or dialogue that clearly support the identified theme.

The Forgotten Wallet

When Liam reached the front of the grocery line, he realized his stomach dropped—he had forgotten his wallet at home. His bag of groceries sat half-packed on the counter, and the people behind him shifted impatiently.

The cashier smiled politely. “It’s okay. You can pay next time,” she offered, noticing the embarrassment on his face. Liam hesitated. The thought of walking out with unpaid groceries made his chest tighten. He knew he lived just down the street, but he also knew others might not believe him.

“I can’t do that,” Liam said finally. “Please hold these items. I’ll run home and come back right away.” He sprinted through the rain, soaked by the time he returned, wallet in hand and out of breath. The cashier grinned. “You didn’t have to hurry like that.” Liam smiled back, wiping rain from his forehead. “I did. It just didn’t feel right otherwise.”

Theme Statement: Write one sentence that expresses the story’s message about honesty in difficult times.

Analysis Prompt: Using the evidence you gathered, write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) explaining how Liam’s actions demonstrate honesty even when it was inconvenient or uncomfortable.
