

Name _____

Seconds To Summarize Answer Key

Expected Reading Benchmarks (5th–6th Grade):

- Cold Read: 115–135 WPM
- Warm Read: 135–160 WPM
- Target Growth: +15–25 WPM on second read

Sample 30-Second Summary (Accurate Response):

Leo finds an old tin box hidden under a stone bridge after following his grandmother's letter. Inside, there's a photograph and a message from his great-great-grandmother reminding the family to remember their roots. The real secret wasn't treasure but a family legacy of love and remembrance.

Summary Focus Elements:

Main Character: Leo

Setting: Old stone bridge on a rainy day

Key Action: Finds a hidden box with a family message

Theme: Family history and remembering one's roots

Teacher Notes / Guide

Objective: Students will strengthen **reading fluency, comprehension, and summarization** skills by timing both reading and recall. The activity emphasizes **efficiency and understanding**, not speed alone.

Implementation Tips:

- Model a 30-second summary first to show how to focus on essentials.
- Encourage students to use **signal words** in summaries (e.g., *first, then, finally*).
- Have pairs exchange summaries to compare what each person remembered; this builds comprehension discussion.
- Allow advanced students to record their oral summaries and time themselves for conciseness.