

Name _____

Date _____

Drama Elements

Drama is a form of literature meant to be performed by actors in front of an audience. Like other forms of literature, a drama presents a series of events, called the plot, and establishes the time and place of those events, called the setting. The plot centers on a conflict, a struggle between opposing forces, and unfolds through the characters' words and actions.

Read the following drama excerpt and answer the questions.

The Secret Garden

[Scene: An old, overgrown garden. LILY stands at the gate looking in. SAM approaches.]

LILY: [excitedly] I found it! The garden my grandmother used to tell me about!

SAM: [doubtfully] This place? It's just weeds and thorns.

LILY: [touching an old rose bush] No, look closer. Under all this, there's something beautiful.

SAM: [shrugs] I don't see anything special.

LILY: [determined] I'm going to bring it back. Grandma said it was once full of flowers.

Name _____

Date _____

Drama Elements

SAM: [surprised] By yourself? That's impossible.

LILY: [smiling] Will you help me?

SAM: [after a pause] Okay, but just for today.

[Lights dim as they begin clearing weeds]

1. What are two stage directions in this drama excerpt?

2. What is the main conflict in this scene?

3. How does the dialogue show the different personalities of Lily and Sam?

Name _____

Date _____

Drama Elements-Answer Key

SAM: [surprised] By yourself? That's impossible.

LILY: [smiling] Will you help me?

SAM: [after a pause] Okay, but just for today.

[Lights dim as they begin clearing weeds]

1. What are two stage directions in this drama excerpt?

"[excitedly]" and "[doubtfully]" are stage directions that tell the actors how to deliver their lines.

2. What is the main conflict in this scene?

The main conflict is between Lily's vision of what the garden could be versus Sam's skepticism about the garden's potential.

3. How does the dialogue show the different personalities of Lily and Sam?

Lily's dialogue shows she is optimistic and determined, seeing beauty where others don't. Sam's dialogue reveals he is practical and skeptical, but willing to help despite his doubts.