

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Character and Setting • Story Structure

- A **character** is a person who takes part in the events of a story. You learn about characters by their words and actions.
- The **setting** is when and where a story takes place.
- Use the **story structure**—beginning, middle, and end—to learn about characters and setting.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

**F**atima was born in Morocco. Now her family lives in New York City. Her father owns a gas station.

Mother wants to visit Morocco. Fatima and her brothers talk to Dad. They set up a car wash at the gas station.

They wash cars all summer. They save every penny they make.

“By fall, we can give the money to Mother,” says Fatima.  
“Then she can go to Morocco.”



1. What is the setting of this selection?

**New York City**

2. How do you know Fatima wants her mother to be able to visit Morocco?

**She is willing to work hard so her mother can go.**

3. Why do you think Fatima’s mother wants to visit Morocco?

**She probably misses the land, culture, and relatives back there.**

4. What clues tell you that this story takes place in the present time?

**New York City, gas station, car wash, travel to Morocco**

5. Reread the story’s beginning, middle, and end. What does each part tell you about Fatima? **Answers may vary.**

**Beginning: She was born in Morocco.**

**Middle: She is helpful and a hard worker.**

**End: She is happy for her mother.**

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**Home Activity** Your child answered questions about a story’s characters. We can learn more about characters by what they say and do. Ask this question: Which of the following words describe Fatima? Then list these words and ask your child to respond by saying yes or no: mean (no), helpful (yes), loving (yes), hard-working (yes), problem-solver (yes), greedy (no), flexible (yes).