

Reader's Theater: The Last Assignment



Characters:

- Narrator
- Sam – the class clown
- Jada – organized and bossy (but lovable)
- Mr. Markley – the dramatic teacher
- Ava – sweet and sentimental
- Liam – already in summer mode
- Principal Puddle – slightly confused but well-meaning
- Coach Boom – super intense P.E. teacher

Optional Props:

- Clipboard or planner (for Jada)
- Sunglasses and pool floaties (for Liam)
- Graduation cap or scarf (for Mr. Markley)
- Tissue box (for Ava)
- Microphone or walkie-talkie (for Principal Puddle)
- Giant whistle and stopwatch (for Coach Boom)
- School supplies for comedic effect: a giant pencil, overstuffed backpack, a paper airplane

Narrator:

The sun was shining. The classroom fans were humming. The hallway smelled like leftover field day popsicles and sweaty sneakers. It was the last week of school.

Sam:

(Fanning himself) This is it. One more week. I've already mentally clocked out.

Liam:

(Wearing sunglasses) I clocked out last Friday. I brought sunscreen and a beach ball today.

Jada:

(Glaring) We still have folders to clean out and at least three anchor charts to review. Don't even think about relaxing yet!

Ava:

(Sniffles softly) I'm just trying to soak it all in. These desks... this whiteboard... this mysterious stain on the carpet. I'll miss it all.

Narrator:

Just then, Mr. Markley entered the classroom with flair. A coffee in one hand. A folder in the other.

Mr. Markley:

My dear students, I present to you your final assignment!

All Students:

(Gasping) WHAT?!?

Liam:

I thought we were DONE.

Sam:

Please tell me it's not until dismissal.

Mr. Markley:

Even better. I want you to write a reflection.

"A Letter to Your Future Self:"

Due by the last day. And it must include:

1. Your favorite memory.
2. The weirdest moment.
3. What you learned this year.

Jada:

Ooh! I already have bullet points!

Sam:

(Panicking) But my brain is already on vacation! Can I just draw a stick figure doing jumping jacks and call it a metaphor?

Mr. Markley:

Absolutely not. Now begin! Reflection time starts... now!

Narrator:

The students groaned louder than the rusty classroom door. But soon...

Ava:

(Smiling) Remember the day our class hamster escaped and I tried to bribe him back with a granola bar?

Liam:

Hey! It almost worked. Peanut butter chip is his favorite.

Jada:

And the time Sam replaced all the vocab words on the word wall with pizza toppings?

Sam:

You're welcome. Pepperoni is basically a synonym for joy.

Narrator:

Laughter filled the classroom as memories came flooding back.

Ava:

I remember when I read my first chapter book cover to cover. I felt like a real author!

Sam:

And when we tried to bake a volcano for science and it exploded blowing foam everywhere—even on Principal Puddle's shoes.

(Principal Puddle muttering.)

Principal Puddle:

(Soggy) Still haven't forgiven the blueberry foam incident.

Liam:

That was SCIENCE, sir.

Principal Puddle:

It was also sticky. Very, very sticky.

Narrator:

Even Coach Boom stopped by, confused but energetic.

Coach Boom:

(Blowing whistle) WHO'S READY FOR REFLECTION LAPS?! Wait... we're writing letters? Can I use glitter pens?

Mr. Markley:

Only if you promise not to yell “YEET” when you turn it in.

Coach Boom:

NO PROMISES.

Natalie:

By the end of the hour, every student was smiling, scribbling, and remembering.

Jada:

(Sincerely) This was actually... kind of fun.

Ava:

I don't want to forget this year.

Liam:

I still want to go on into summer, but... Yeah. This was a good ride.

Sam:

Can we staple a snack to our letter?

Mr. Markley:

Sure. As long as it's not tuna salad.

Narrator:

And with that, the final assignment was complete. Not just a letter—but a reminder of everything they'd learned, laughed at, and lived through.

All (together):

Best. Year. Ever.

Name: _____

Date: _____

What was the final assignment Mr. Markley gave?

Why didn't the students want to do it at first?

How did the students' feelings change during the assignment?

Sam



Jada



Mr. Markley



Ava



Liam



Principal Puddle



Coach Boom



Narrator



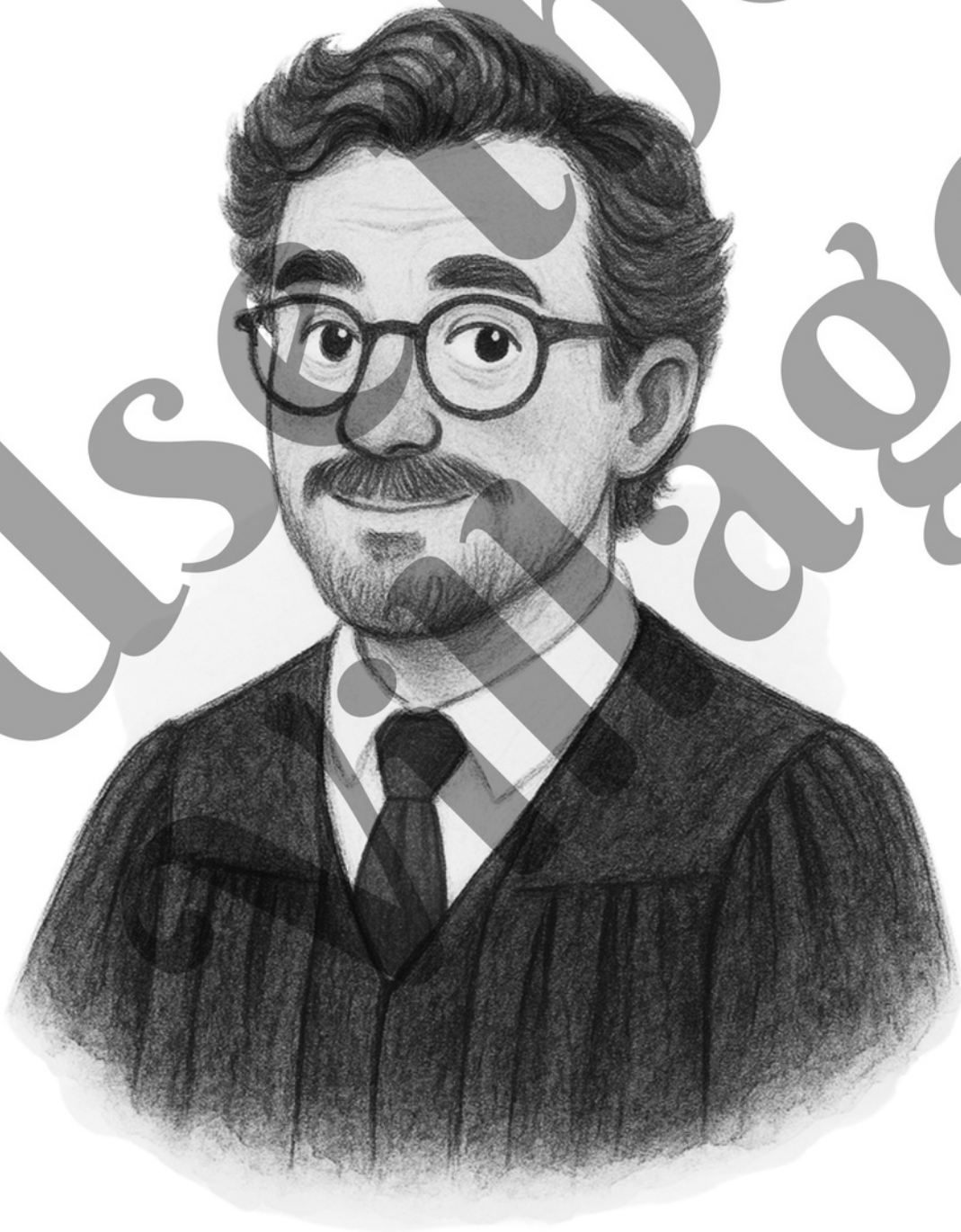
Sam



Jada



Mr. Markley



Ava



Liam



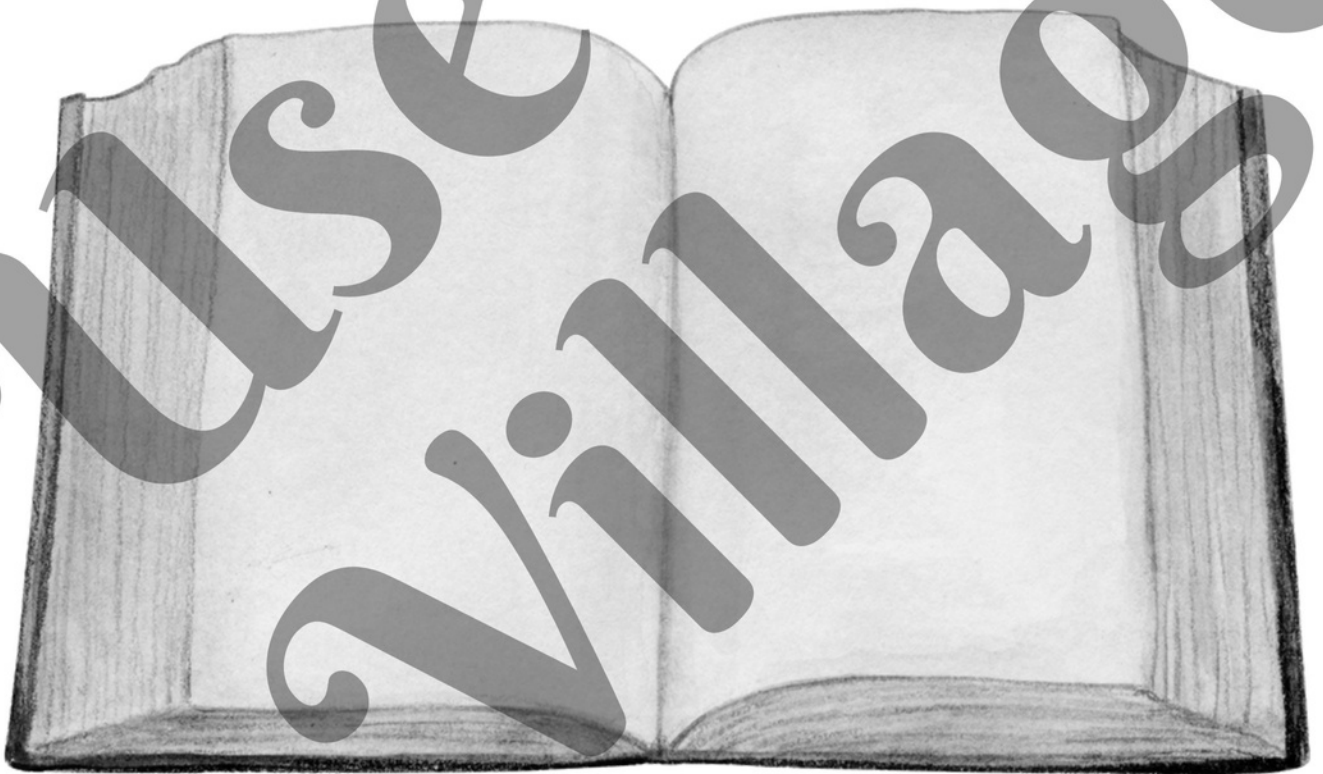
Principal Puddle



Coach Boom



Narrator



Teacher Suggestions:

Assigning Roles: Consider your students' reading levels and confidence when assigning roles. Encourage students to practice their parts at home or during independent reading time.

Practicing Fluency: Have students practice their parts multiple times to build fluency and expression.

Props & Costumes: Use the optional props list to create simple, engaging props.

Character Labels: Students can also use the provided character names to create labels to hang around their desks to help identify characters to the audience or alternatively draw and illustrate what they imagine their character to look like.

Performance: Arrange a space in the classroom where students can perform. Invite other students to watch the final performance to boost students' confidence and make it more special.

Reader Response Questions: Use the provided questions to facilitate a post-performance discussion. These will help assess comprehension and encourage students to think critically about the play.

Extension Activities

- Write Your Own Letter :Students write a “Letter to Future Me” to be sealed and opened next year.
 - Create a Memory Collage: Each student contributes a drawing or quote to a big “Best Year Ever” classroom collage.
 - End-of-Year Awards: Hold a silly award ceremony with categories like “Most Likely to Become a Comedian” or “Fastest Pencil Sharpening Skills.”
 - Create a trivia game using funny or memorable moments from the school year. Students can play in teams and even write their own trivia questions for play as a class.
- Include questions like:
1. “What spilled glitter everywhere in October?”
 2. “What was our class hamster’s real name?”
 3. “What was the wildest science experiment we did?”