Lesson 2: Find the Evidence

UNIT: Detective Series

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Anne!

Welcome back to “The Case of the Missing Grandpa.”

In the last lesson, you read Chapter One of this mystery story. You met Rohan, who wasn't very excited to be spending a week at his grandpa's house. Rohan likes to read, and Grandpa even offered him a new book to try. He wasn't that excited about it, but when he went to give it back to him, he discovered his grandpa had gone missing.

With the story so far, we know Grandpa is missing, but we don't know where he is. As readers, it can be fun to take a guess about where Grandpa went.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: Where do you think grandpa went in the story? Use your imagination.

HOOK 2

Maybe you thought he's hiding behind his desk, or he snuck out to go grocery shopping, or maybe he's in the room in full camouflage so he can't be seen. You may have come up with something else, and that's great.

Making guesses or predictions about a story can be a lot of fun. They might be wrong, but that's okay. However, when detectives solve a mystery, they don't just take a guess. Detectives use evidence to help solve the mystery.

As writers, you can use evidence in your writing too. Evidence is how writers show exactly where in the story they got an answer from. That way, they can show their ideas came from the story and aren't just a guess.

Check it out.

Here's one of the questions about Chapter One that you answered in the last lesson: "Why does Grandpa think Rohan might like *The Secret of the Old Clock*?"

You may have written something like this: "Grandpa thinks Rohan might like *The Secret of the Old Clock* because he knows Rohan likes mystery stories."

I know this is what happened in the story, but if someone else read this answer, it could seem like a guess. As a writer, I can include evidence to show that this answer isn't a guess. This answer is actually in the story.

To find some evidence, I can reread the part of the story where Grandpa gave Rohan *The Secret of the Old Clock:*

> "Hey, Grandpa," I said, standing in the doorway to the study.
> "I picked out a book for you, kid. I think you'll enjoy it." He handed me a book with a red tattered cover.
> *"The Secret of the Old Clock*," I read dutifully.
> Jeez. Even Grandpa's books are about old stuff.

"Give it a try," he said. "I think you'll like it. It's sort of like that other mystery book you like.

"*The Secret Library*" I replied.

"Yeah," he said. "Let me know what you think, will you?"

One of these sentences *really* shows why Grandpa thinks Rohan would like this book.

DISCUSSION 2

Discuss: Which sentence best shows why grandpa thinks Rohan might like *The Secret of the Old Clock*?

HOOK 3

Here's what I found.

I read this sentence: "It's sort of like that other mystery book you like." I thought it really shows why Grandpa picked this book for Rohan.

Here's how I added it to my answer:

> For example, in the story Grandpa says, "it's sort of like that other mystery book you like."

Notice how I put a transition phrase, *for example*, to show I'm including evidence from the story. And I used quotation marks to show which part of my sentence is the evidence from the story.

The answer is clear and easy to understand, because I answered the question in a complete sentence. I also added evidence to show exactly where in the story I got my

answer. This shows that my answer isn't just a guess—I know it's the answer, because it's in the story.

Today, you will read Chapter Two of “The Case of the Missing Grandpa.” Plus, the author has sent us another letter to help us solve the case. Then, you will answer two questions about the story, using evidence to show where in the story your answer came from. I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

In today's lesson, you'll need someone to share ideas with. This could be a partner or someone you sit near. When everyone knows who their talk partner is, move on to the next step.

STEP 3

Let's read Chapter Two. If you'd like to read the story on your own, you can pause the video now, or you can keep watching to hear me read the story aloud.

Follow along in your copy of Chapter Two.

Chapter Two

I stood in the doorway for a minute, puzzled. Grandpa had definitely been in this room. There was only one door to the study, which I had been unintentionally guarding. There was a window in the study, but Grandpa walked with a cane. There was no way he was spry enough to climb through a window.

"Grandpa?" I asked out loud in case he was out of sight somewhere. There was no answer.

"Grandpa," I said a little bit louder, but there was still no reply. My heart sank as I felt panic rising up in my chest. Questions started swirling in my head faster than I could answer them. Did Grandpa pass by me, and I didn't notice? Was he hiding somewhere? Was he okay? Where could he have gone?

To calm myself down, I decided to check the rest of the house. I had only been away for a few minutes, so he couldn't have gone very far. I checked the living room, which had a big TV with two antennae on it. I don't think it even gets streaming. Grandpa wasn't in the yard, which was more of a dirt patch out back. The garage smelled the worst of all, like it had been wet for 100 years, but Grandpa wasn't in there either. Kitchen? No. Bathrooms? Nope. I even cracked the door to Grandpa's bedroom a tiny bit, peering inside. He was nowhere to be found.

I remembered when my mom had said to “keep an eye on Grandpa.” I thought she was joking, but maybe she was serious. I imagined the embarrassment of having to call my mom the same day she dropped me off to admit I lost Grandpa. Nope. Couldn't do that.

I needed to find him. I started to shake a little bit as I suddenly felt very alone in the house.

I walked back to the study. On my way, I passed the book I had left in the hallway. *The Secret of the Old Clock*. Grandpa had mentioned that it was a mystery story. I picked it up as I realized that I was on a mystery case too: the case of the missing grandpa.

My nerves began to calm as I imagined myself as one of the detectives in the mystery books I've read. In all the mystery books, detectives always go to the last place they saw something to look for clues. I hurried into the study. The first thing I saw was Grandpa's cane leaning against the wall. That clue told me he had to be nearby since he can't walk very well without it. I checked the desk next. The typewriter stood empty

among some scattered papers on the desk. There were a few notes that he had written in his loopy cursive handwriting. None of the notes had any clues as to where he might have gone.

Then, I looked at the book in my hand. Is it possible that the book was a clue? Had Grandpa left me this book on purpose? *The Secret of the Old Clock.* I suddenly looked up, scanning the bookshelves for a clock. There was a small statue, an old spyglass, a music box… and then I saw it. A dusty old wind-up clock tucked in the corner of one of the bookshelves.

Carefully, I approached it. It was probably an antique, as lots of things in here were. I gingerly picked it up and let out a small gasp. Underneath was an envelope. An envelope with a name on it, written in familiar, loopy, cursive handwriting. Rohan.

Stay tuned for Chapter Three of “The Case of the Missing Grandpa.”

STEP 4

The mystery continues, and Rohan is on the case.

We still don't know where Grandpa is yet, but Rohan has found more clues to help figure it out.

Get the class letter. Have one person in your class read the letter out loud.

When you're done reading, move on to the next step.

STEP 5

Find number four on your Chapter 2 Continued worksheet.

Let's try answering this question out loud.

Discuss with your partner: How does Rohan know that Grandpa must be nearby?

You can look back in Chapter Two of the story if you want.

STEP 6

Maybe you said, “he has to be nearby because Rohan just saw him a few minutes ago.”

Or maybe you said, “Rohan knows because he found Grandpa's cane.”

Write a complete sentence that answers the question. Remember to use as many words from the question as you can in your sentence.

STEP 7

Here's what I wrote: “Rohan knows that Grandpa must be nearby because he left his cane in the study.”

You may have written something different and that's okay. This sentence answers the question, but as writers, we can show that the answer is in the story—it isn't just a guess.

You can add evidence to show where in the story you found your answer.

Get your Chapter 2 worksheet.

Find the place where you found the answer to number four.

Find a sentence that you think best shows your answer and underline it.

STEP 8

Before you write your evidence, you can introduce it. Choose one of these sentence starters and write it next.

STEP 9

What's that? We've uncovered a writing tip!

Today's writing tip is about quotation marks.

One way writers use quotation marks is to quote what somebody said, like this:

> He said, "There's a clue!"

Another way writers use quotation marks is to quote what a story said, like this:

> In the story it says, "The first thing I saw was Grandpa's cane, leaning against the wall."

This quotation isn't what a person said—it's what the story said.

To include your evidence, copy the sentence you underlined, and put quotation marks around it.

Continue writing where you left off.

STEP 10

Nice job, writers. Your first question now has an answer and evidence from the story.

Find question number five.

Let's try answering this question out loud.

Discuss with your partner: Who wrote Rohan's name on the envelope?

Remember, you can look back in the story to find the answer.

STEP 11

You may have noticed that the name on the envelope was written in cursive, loopy handwriting. And earlier in the story, Grandpa's handwriting is described as cursive and loopy.

That means Grandpa wrote Rohan's name on the envelope.

Write a complete sentence answer to this question.

Remember to use words from the question to write your answer.

STEP 12

Look back in your Chapter 2 worksheet.

Find a sentence or two that shows how you know your answer is correct.

Underline the evidence you want to use.

STEP 13

Add your evidence to your answer using one of the transition phrases on your worksheet.

If you want, you can use more than one piece of evidence.

Be sure to put your evidence in “quotation marks.”

STEP 14

Take turns reading your answers out loud to your partner. Check to make sure you answered in complete sentences and included evidence from the story. If you want, you can make changes.

STEP 15

To add your pages to your case file, fold your Chapter 2 worksheet and your Chapter 2 Continued worksheet in half on the line, like this.

STEP 16

Unclip the paperclip on your case file.

Use the page numbers to help you keep your case file in order.

Add both of your worksheets to your case file and put the paperclip back on.

WRAP UP

Nice job, writers!

You found lots of clues to add to your case files. You proved your answers were correct with evidence from the story. I can't wait to read what happens next in the story. I wonder what clues Rohan will find.

In the next lesson, we'll read Chapter Three of "The Case of the Missing Grandpa."

Make sure you put your case file with your V.I.P.s somewhere safe, and I'll see you next time!