

R5e: Can explain and justify inferences, providing evidence from the text to support reasoning

Skills Test 3

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As he sat outside the Head’s office, heart-pounding, Javon tried to make sense of the last six hours. Although he couldn’t make out what was being said, he could hear the voices inside: the Head, occasionally his dad, and the unfamiliar voice of the police officer. He couldn’t hear his mum’s voice, just the occasional sob. From the tone of the voices, he could tell this was serious. Very serious.

This was all so unfamiliar to him – Javon wasn’t the type of boy who was ever really broke the rules, let alone the law. A joker? Definitely. Cheeky? Sometimes. But a criminal? No way! So how was it that he’d ended up stealing Ryan’s mobile phone? He tried to piece it all together, how he had found out about the photos and texts. At the time, it had seemed like the right thing to do, the only thing to do. Now, listening to the voices leaking out from behind ~~the~~ the office door, he wasn’t so sure. Sometimes good people do the wrong things for the right reasons, he reminded himself ... don’t they?

1. Explain how Javon feels about the situation that he has found himself in. Use evidence from the text to justify your reasoning.

2. Do you think that Javon regrets his actions? Justify your answer using evidence from the text.

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Answers:

1. Javon feels anxious about his situation because he is not normally in trouble. The text says that his heart was pounding, that he is in an unfamiliar situation and that he keeps questioning himself about what happened.

2. Yes – he is in serious trouble because of his actions. The text says that the police are involved which has never happened to him before and it says that his mum is upset as a result of what he has done.

No – he feels that he had a good reason for doing what he did. The text says that it had seemed like the right thing to do, the only thing to do. It also says that sometimes good people do the wrong things for the right reasons, which suggests that he thinks he has done the right thing.