Expanding 3

Story Quest Graded Readers

A2 to A2+

Thinking Like a Mechanic

Amina isn't a mechanic. But when her plans suddenly fall apart, she may need to start thinking like one.



Let's Explore

- ★ Teamwork
- ★ Problem-solving
- ★ Family

Realistic Fiction

المملكة المغربيـــة
Kingdom of Morocco

وزارة التربيـــة الوطنيـــة
والتعليم الأولي والرياضة

Ministry of National Education,
Preschool and Sports

About this Series

This graded reader is part of Story Quest, a series that supports Moroccan students in building their English language skills. Its stories encourage curiosity, build confidence, and foster a lifelong love of reading.

The Story Quest series was developed through collaboration between the Ministry of National Education, Preschool and Sports, Curriculum Directorate, and Amideast. Together, we help students strengthen their English while opening doors to new ideas, cultures, and opportunities.

Supported by the U.S. Embassy in Morocco.

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Welcome to Story Quest!

Every story is an ADVENTURE.

- Open the book.
- Discover new words.
- Meet interesting characters.
- Explore new ideas.

And most of all... enjoy the story!



Your Reading Journey



Story Snapshot

Genre

Realistic Fiction	These stories are about people and events that could happen in real life.

Reader Level

3 Expanding A2 to A2+	These books have longer stories, more detail, and richer language to explore.

Get Ready!

Look, Think, and Predict

Look at the title and the cover. Tick (✓) or write your answers below.

Amina is not a mechanic, but her father is. What do you think it means to "think like a mechanic"? Choose one or more ideas.

- ❑ know how to fix a car
- ❑ look carefully at a problem
- ❑ work well with other people
- ❑ keep trying when something is difficult

In the story, I predict Amina will _____.

Words and Phrases to Know

Match each word with its meaning. Write the word.

responsibility	mechanic	interview	organize	divide	solution

_____ 1. A person whose job is to repair cars and machines

_____ 2. To put things in order or plan carefully

_____ 3. A meeting where you ask someone questions to get information

_____ 4. Something you must do or take care of

_____ 5. An answer to a problem

_____ 6. To separate something into parts

Ready? Your **Story Quest** begins now!
🎧 Listen as you read. Enjoy the journey!

Enjoy the Story!

Thinking Like a Mechanic



Amina was fourteen and lived with her parents and her younger brother, Abdelatif. Her father was a mechanic in a small repair shop, and her mother was a nurse at the local health center. Everyone had a busy schedule, so they shared the work at home.

One Monday, Amina's teacher announced a class project about jobs in the community. Students had to work in groups, interview someone about their job, and give a presentation on Friday.

“We could interview my dad,” Amina told her group. “He's a mechanic.”

“Great!” said Driss. “I know a lot about cars.”

“So do I,” Hassna replied. “My uncle taught me.”

Soon, they were both talking at the same time. Each wanted to lead the interview.

“Wait!” Amina said with a laugh. “Let's divide the tasks. Driss can prepare the questions, Hassna can take notes, and I'll organize the presentation.”



The next afternoon, they met Amina's father at his repair shop. Tools hung on the wall, a radio played in the corner, and the smell of oil filled the air. Her father was working under the hood of an old car.

Driss asked what a mechanic needed to be good at his job.

“People think mechanics only need to know about machines,” he said. “But I also need to listen carefully. A customer may say, ‘My car is making a strange noise.’ I have to ask questions and discover what is really wrong.”

“What if you don't know the answer?” Hassna asked.

Amina's father smiled. “Then I keep looking. Sometimes finding the problem is the hardest part.”

That evening, Amina was tired. Her mother was working late, so she helped Abdelatif with his homework, prepared dinner, and washed the dishes.



Then she saw her notebook. "The presentation!"

She organized the group's notes before going to bed.

On Thursday, the group practiced together. Amina divided the presentation into three parts so everyone could speak. After a few tries, they were ready. But on Friday morning, Driss was sick.

"He has part of the presentation!" Hassna whispered. For a second, Amina's stomach tightened. Then she opened her notes.



"We can do it." The girls divided Driss's part between them and practiced quickly.

When their turn came, Amina was nervous. But when she started speaking, she relaxed. Their presentation went well.

The teacher smiled. “You did more than complete a school project. You showed teamwork, responsibility, flexibility, and problem-solving.”

At dinner, Amina told her family what had happened.

Her father looked proud. “It sounds like you did some problem-solving of your own this week.”

Amina smiled. “I learned from you. When there's a problem, keep looking until you find a solution.”

Her father laughed. “Now you're thinking like a mechanic.”





Check your Comprehension

A. Read each sentence. Tick (✓) true or false.

True	False	
☐	☐	1. Amina's father works as a mechanic.
☐	☐	2. Driss, Hassna, and Amina all wanted to lead the interview.
☐	☐	3. Amina's father says that listening carefully is important for a mechanic.
☐	☐	4. Amina finished preparing the presentation with her group on Thursday.
☐	☐	5. Driss was absent on the day of the presentation.
☐	☐	6. Amina felt nervous during the whole presentation.
☐	☐	7. Amina learned from her father to keep looking for a solution when there is a problem.

B. Write your answer.

What did Amina learn from her father about solving problems?

_____

_____

Make Connections

Choose **one** task.

Think Like a Mechanic!

Amina's father keeps looking when he has a problem to solve. Amina does the same thing when Driss is absent.

Think about a problem you have solved at home, at school, with friends, or somewhere else.

Option 1: Write. Complete the sentences.

My problem was _____.

- First, I _____.
- Then, I _____.
- The solution was _____.
- I learned _____.

Option 2: Draw four pictures to show how you solved a problem.

Write one word under each picture that explains the key idea.

The Problem	What I did	The Solution	What I learned
_____	_____	_____	_____

Answer Key

Get Ready!

Look, Think, and Predict

Answers will vary.

Words and Phrases to Know

1. mechanic
2. organize
3. interview
4. responsibility
5. solution
6. divide

Keep Exploring!

Check your Comprehension

1. True
2. False; Driss and Hassna wanted to lead the interview. Amina suggested dividing the tasks.
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. False; Amina was nervous at first, but she relaxed when she started speaking.
7. True

Make Connections

Answers will vary.

Sample Answer Option 1:

- My problem was I lost my school notebook.
- First, I looked in my bag.
- Then, I asked my friend for help.
- The solution was to look in our classroom.
- I learned to stay calm and keep looking.

Sample Answer Option 2:

