Three Blue Knots

B2 Upper-intermediate · Work · about 2 min of audio

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Name _____ Date _____

Part 1 — Fill the gaps while you listen

1. Three blue knots hid beneath the coat's loose hem, nearly lost among faded _____.
2. Mara, a tailor, found them while _____ it for Daniel, who had inherited it from his aunt.
3. He had brought the coat from her flat, _____ it was an ordinary family keepsake.
4. The pattern took Mara back to years she spent mending _____ for a touring theatre.
5. Its wardrobe crew used three blue knots to mark garments repaired during a _____.
6. The chief _____ taught Mara that code, which signaled an urgent repair made while actors performed.
7. Daniel remembered his aunt mentioning backstage _____, but assumed she had merely sold tickets.
8. A note in her _____ identified the coat as the lead actor's, worn in the company's final show.
9. It _____ a torn cuff, while three knots showed she had repaired it before the scene ended.
10. Mara returned the coat with its history intact, and Daniel understood his aunt had saved a _____.

Part 2 — Write every sentence you hear

1. _____

_____

2. _____

_____

3. _____

_____

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Answer key

Part 1 — the missing words

1. stitches 2. repairing 3. believing 4. costumes 5. performance 6. seamstress 7. emergencies 8. handwriting 9. recorded 10. performance

Part 2 — the full transcript

1. Three blue knots hid beneath the coat's loose hem, nearly lost among faded stitches.
2. Mara, a tailor, found them while repairing it for Daniel, who had inherited it from his aunt.
3. He had brought the coat from her flat, believing it was an ordinary family keepsake.
4. The pattern took Mara back to years she spent mending costumes for a touring theatre.
5. Its wardrobe crew used three blue knots to mark garments repaired during a performance.
6. The chief seamstress taught Mara that code, which signaled an urgent repair made while actors performed.
7. Daniel remembered his aunt mentioning backstage emergencies, but assumed she had merely sold tickets.
8. A note in her handwriting identified the coat as the lead actor's, worn in the company's final show.
9. It recorded a torn cuff, while three knots showed she had repaired it before the scene ended.
10. Mara returned the coat with its history intact, and Daniel understood his aunt had saved a performance.

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