NAME: _____ DATE: _____



READING COMPREHENSION WORKSHEET

It was Christmas Eve in the snowy village of Willow Creek, and eleven-year-old Maya had a special mission.
Every year, her community gathered around the town square's massive evergreen tree to sing carols and share warm apple cider.
However, this year brought a record-breaking blizzard, and the storm had knocked out power lines across the entire valley.

While most villagers retreated indoors with hot chocolate, Maya noticed that the grand outdoor tree—usually adorned with bright electric fairy lights—stood completely dark. She knew how much the twinkling display meant to the elderly residents at the nearby Meadowview Senior Home, who relied on the festive view from their window to feel connected to the village celebration.

Determined to light up the night, Maya gathered her younger brother, Leo, and her sled.
They pulled a heavy wooden chest from their basement filled with old brass lanterns, battery-operated candles, and reflective glass ornaments saved by their grandmother. Trudging through knee-deep snow against howling winds, they carefully positioned thirty lanterns around the base of the tree and hung the shiny glass ornaments on the lower branches.

When Maya switched on the candles inside the lanterns, something magical happened.
The reflective glass ornaments caught the glowing candlelight, bouncing beams of warm amber light up through the ice-encrusted pine needles. From the third-floor window of Meadowview Senior Home, applause broke out. Though the power was out,
Willow Creek's Christmas tree shone brighter and warmer than ever before.

SHORT ANSWER & CRITICAL THINKING

1.) How did the townspeople at Meadowview Senior Home react when Maya lit up the tree?

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2.) Why do you think traditional or non-electric items (like old brass lanterns and glass ornaments) were effective during this crisis?

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