



Read the story again. Then answer each question using details and your own thinking.

The Fastest Man Alive

Everyone at school said their favourite player was different. Some said Auston Matthews. Some said Nathan MacKinnon. But Jordan always said Connor McDavid — and he was ready to explain why.



"McDavid is the fastest skater to ever play the game," Jordan told his little sister Kira during the playoff game on TV. She was eight and had questions about everything.

"Watch him when he picks up the puck at the red line."



Sure enough, Number 97 in orange and blue retrieved a loose puck at centre ice. Two defenders read the play and turned to chase. McDavid burst forward. One step. Two steps. He was gone — past both of them like they were standing still.

He pulled up at the right circle, cut to his backhand, and zipped a pass across the slot to Leon Draisaitl, who hammered it home. Edmonton Oilers. Goal.



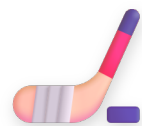
"But he didn't score," Kira pointed out.

"It doesn't matter," Jordan said. "He did the hard part. He made it happen."

Kira thought about that. "So being the best doesn't mean getting the credit?"

Jordan looked at her, surprised. "Yeah," he said slowly. "I guess that's exactly what it means."

Later, McDavid did score — a breakaway in the third period that left the goalie sprawled helplessly on the ice. Kira stood up and cheered without being told to. Sometimes you just know when you've seen something special.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Kira asks "So being the best doesn't mean getting the credit?" What does her question reveal about what she is learning from this story?

(2) Why does Jordan seem surprised by Kira's question?

(3) The author writes that McDavid passed "two defenders like they were standing still." What writing technique is this, and what effect does it have?

(4) At the end, Kira cheers "without being told to." Why is this detail important?

(5) Jordan said McDavid "did the hard part." Do you agree? Can setting up a goal be harder than scoring one?

