The Extra Chair

Read the story. Use details to support your answers.

Maya set five plates around the table. She folded a napkin beside each plate and placed a small paper leaf in the middle. On every leaf, she wrote a kind word. Then her uncle called from the doorway. Their neighbor, Mr. Lee, would join the meal because his train trip had been canceled. Maya looked at the table. There was no empty place. She moved the basket of rolls to a small side table and asked her brother to bring another chair. Soon, six plates fit comfortably. Maya made one more paper leaf. She wrote welcome on it and placed it at the new seat. When Mr. Lee arrived, Maya showed him his place. He smiled before he even took off his coat.

1. How many plates did Maya set out at first?

2. Why did Mr. Lee join the meal?

3. What did Maya move to make room?

4. What detail shows that Maya wanted Mr. Lee to feel included?

The Extra Chair - Answer Key

Sample responses; accept other answers supported by the passage.

1. Five plates.

2. His train trip had been canceled.

3. She moved the basket of rolls to a side table.

4. She made a new leaf with the word welcome and showed him his place.