Talk With Purpose

Notice how speakers use words for different reasons.

3.LF.2.a "Use oral language for different purposes: to inform, to entertain, to persuade, to clarify, and to respond."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In the passage, underline one thing someone says for each purpose: to inform, entertain, persuade, clarify, and respond. Write I, E, P, C, or R above each part you underline.

The Puddle by the Door

1 On Monday, Ms. Bell's class planned a rain garden beside the school door. A rain garden is a low spot with plants that soaks up water after a storm. During the class meeting, Nia said, "Rain from the roof runs across the path and makes puddles by our door." Then Omar grinned and said, "Last week, one puddle tried to eat my shoe for lunch!" The class laughed.

2 Lena raised her hand. "Let's plant a rain garden near the path. It could help keep our shoes dry, so please vote for it," she said. Ben frowned. "What do you mean by a rain garden?" he asked. Lena explained, "I mean a shallow place filled with soil and plants. Rainwater can collect there and slowly sink into the ground." Ben nodded, but he had one more question.

3 Ben asked, "Will we need to water the plants every day?" Ms. Bell replied, "At first, we may need to water them while their roots grow. Later, rain may be enough, but we will check the soil." The class decided to ask the principal for a planting spot. Nia wrote down the ideas so the class could explain its plan at the next school meeting.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does Nia tell the class about the path, and why does she say it?

2. Why does Omar say that a puddle tried to eat his shoe?

3. What does Lena want her classmates to do, and what reason does she give?

4. How does Lena help Ben understand a rain garden? How is Ms. Bell's reply to Ben different?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you want to start a board game corner at lunch. Write three things you would say to classmates: one to inform them of your plan, one to persuade them to try it, and one to respond if a classmate asks, “Where will the games go?”

ANSWER KEY

Talk With Purpose

GRADE 3 · 3.LF.2.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In the passage, underline one thing someone says for each purpose: to inform, entertain, persuade, clarify, and respond. Write I, E, P, C, or R above each part you underline. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Nia tell the class about the path, and why does she say it?	**Nia informs the class that rain from the roof makes puddles on the path by the door.**
2	Why does Omar say that a puddle tried to eat his shoe?	**He says it to entertain the class with a funny image.**
3	What does Lena want her classmates to do, and what reason does she give?	**She wants them to vote for a rain garden because it could help keep their shoes dry.**
4	How does Lena help Ben understand a rain garden? How is Ms. Bell's reply to Ben different?	**Lena clarifies what a rain garden is and how it works. Ms. Bell responds to Ben's question about watering the plants.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I want to start a board game corner in our classroom at lunch. Please try it because we can play together on rainy days. We can keep the games in the cabinet beside the door.

For the marking job, accept Nia's statement as I, Omar's joke as E, Lena's request for a vote as P, Lena's explanation as C, and Ms. Bell's reply as R. For Your Turn, accept other sensible plans and storage places if the three statements serve the requested purposes.