Creek Clue Hunt

Use word relationships to uncover meaning in a park cleanup story.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.5c "Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs) to better understand each of the words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each pair of words or phrases that shows nearly the same or opposite meanings. Circle the repeated word that has two different meanings, and number its two uses 1 and 2.

Cleanup at Willow Creek

1. On Saturday, Maya joined a park cleanup beside Willow Creek. The trail was narrow, not wide, so volunteers walked in a single line. Maya carried a small sack, or bag, for litter, while Mr. Chen carried a large bag. When a light rain began, everyone moved quickly, but no one rushed past slippery stones near the water's edge.

2. At a bend in the creek, Maya spotted a turtle resting on the muddy bank. She knew a bank can also be a place where people keep money. Later, the group sat on a wooden bench to eat lunch. A nearby sign asked visitors not to feed the ducks, which stayed quiet until crumbs fell.

3. Before leaving, volunteers counted the trash they had collected. The pile looked messy at first, yet the sorting table soon made it orderly. Maya felt proud, not ashamed, of the team's careful work. She wrote that protecting a creek is important because clean water helps plants, animals, and people in the area stay healthy and safe.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does narrow mean in the first paragraph? Which words in the passage help you know?

2. Which word in the first paragraph means nearly the same as sack?

3. The word bank appears twice in the second paragraph. What does bank mean each time?

4. What does ashamed mean in the third paragraph? Use its relationship to proud to explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences that use the same-spelled word in two different meanings. Choose a word that does not appear in the passage, and make each meaning clear with nearby clues.

ANSWER KEY

Creek Clue Hunt

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each pair of words or phrases that shows nearly the same or opposite meanings. Circle the repeated word that has two different meanings, and number its two uses 1 and 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does narrow mean in the first paragraph? Which words in the passage help you know?	**Narrow means not wide. The passage says, "narrow, not wide."**
2	Which word in the first paragraph means nearly the same as sack?	**Bag.**
3	The word bank appears twice in the second paragraph. What does bank mean each time?	**First, bank means the edge of the creek. Second, bank means a place where people keep money.**
4	What does ashamed mean in the third paragraph? Use its relationship to proud to explain.	**Ashamed means feeling bad or embarrassed about something. It is the opposite of proud.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the aquarium, a seal balanced a ball on its nose. Nora used a plastic seal to close the food container.

Accept accurate explanations of synonym, antonym, and homograph relationships supported by the passage. For the open task, accept any two clear sentences using one same-spelled word with two different meanings, as long as the word does not appear in the passage.