Station of Stories

Track comparisons, word shades, and personification in a station scene.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.5 "Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one comparison that uses like or as. Circle the three label words that describe how easily an item could be damaged, and draw a box around a phrase that gives the station a human action.

The Harbor Street Station

1 At sunrise, Maya wheeled her bicycle to the old Harbor Street station. The building stood at the edge of town, where salt air curled through cracked windows. A sign above the door read, "Tickets," though no trains had stopped there for years. Maya had come to help her uncle sort boxes for the town museum. Inside, sunlight lay across the floor like long, golden ribbons, leading her past a counter with brass rails and drawers.

2 Her uncle called from the storage room, "Choose the most fragile box first." Maya studied three labels: delicate maps, breakable lamps, and sturdy trunks. She selected the maps, which were thin and easily torn. Then a gust pushed the front door open. Papers fluttered from a table, and the room became a startled flock of wings. Maya grabbed the pages quickly, but her uncle moved calmly, closing the door before more papers escaped. "Careful is better than worried," he said, smiling.

3 Near noon, Maya found a timetable tucked behind a cabinet. Its faded rows named towns she had never visited, yet the paper made them seem close. She imagined travelers checking the clock, clutching lunch pails, and listening for a whistle beyond the hill. The station held its breath in the quiet. Maya placed the timetable in a folder marked "Save." She wrote the date in the museum log, then carried the folder to the front desk beside the old ticket window.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What two things are compared in the simile about the sunlight?

2. What event does the metaphor "the room became a startled flock of wings" describe?

3. How does the word delicate describe the maps differently from the word breakable describing the lamps?

4. What mood does the phrase "The station held its breath in the quiet" create?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences about a place you know. Include a simile, a metaphor, and two related feeling words with different strengths. Underline the simile and metaphor, and circle the two feeling words.

ANSWER KEY

Station of Stories

GRADE 6 · L.6.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one comparison that uses like or as. Circle the three label words that describe how easily an item could be damaged, and draw a box around a phrase that gives the station a human action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two things are compared in the simile about the sunlight?	**The sunlight is compared to long, golden ribbons.**
2	What event does the metaphor "the room became a startled flock of wings" describe?	**It describes papers fluttering around the room after the gust opened the door.**
3	How does the word delicate describe the maps differently from the word breakable describing the lamps?	**Delicate means the maps can be damaged or torn easily, while breakable means the lamps can break, such as by shattering.**
4	What mood does the phrase "The station held its breath in the quiet" create?	**It creates a still, silent, expectant mood.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The library was as quiet as a snowfall. Its shelves were a forest of stories. I felt <circle>nervous</circle>, then <circle>terrified</circle>, when the lights flickered.

Accept equivalent explanations of the figurative language when they match the passage. For the writing task, accept varied places and descriptions if the response has exactly three sentences, a simile, a metaphor, and two related feeling words that show different intensity.