Voices on the Hill

Use punctuation and word clues to read with expression.

ELA.3.F.1.4 "Read grade-level texts with accuracy, automaticity, and appropriate prosody or expression."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the spoken words, circle each question mark and exclamation mark, and draw a small slash at each comma where you would pause. These marks help your voice match the meaning as you read.

The Kite Chase

1. On a windy Saturday, Maya carried a bright kite to the hill behind the library. Her little brother, Leo, held the string spool. “Is the wind strong enough?” he asked. Maya lifted the kite. The paper tail snapped and danced. “Let’s find out!” she said. They ran across the grass, keeping their eyes on the blue sky.

2. At first, the kite bumped along the ground. Then a gust pulled it high. Leo laughed, “It’s flying, Maya! It’s really flying!” Maya let out more string, but the spool slipped from Leo’s hands. “Catch it!” Maya called. Both children raced after the rolling spool. For one breathless moment, the kite tugged toward a tall oak tree.

3. Just before the kite reached the branches, the wind softened. The spool stopped beside a bench. Leo grabbed it and held tight. “We did it,” he whispered. Maya smiled. “Yes, but next time, use both hands.” They walked down the hill slowly. Above them, the kite floated in wide, quiet circles until the sun dipped behind the roofs.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the line with two exclamation marks. How should your voice sound when you read it?

2. Copy the question that should end with a rising voice.

3. In the sentence that begins “Maya let out more string,” copy the word that comes just before the short pause.

4. Copy the sentence that should be read at a slower pace because it tells how the children walked.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write 3 or 4 sentences about something that changes quickly. Include one question, one exclamation, and a dialogue tag that tells how a speaker talks. Draw a slash where you would pause, then read your writing aloud twice with expression.

ANSWER KEY # Voices on the Hill

GRADE 3 · ELA.3.F.1.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the spoken words, circle each question mark and exclamation mark, and draw a small slash at each comma where you would pause. These marks help your voice match the meaning as you read. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the line with two exclamation marks. How should your voice sound when you read it?	**"It's flying, Maya! It's really flying!" Read it with an excited, loud voice.**
2	Copy the question that should end with a rising voice.	**"Is the wind strong enough?"**
3	In the sentence that begins "Maya let out more string," copy the word that comes just before the short pause.	**string**
4	Copy the sentence that should be read at a slower pace because it tells how the children walked.	**They walked down the hill slowly.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Clouds raced over the playground. "Will it rain?" Noah asked nervously. A cold drop landed on his nose, / and he shouted, "Run inside!"

Accept equivalent descriptions of expression, such as cheerful, excited, or energetic for the exclamation line, and rising intonation for the question. In Part 3, check for 3 or 4 sentences, a question, an exclamation, a dialogue tag, a marked pause, and expression that matches the punctuation and words.