Trail Sign Clues

Use nearby details to figure out word meanings.

ELA.4.V.1 "Finding Meaning"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the words bend, bold, coated, and sharp. Underline the nearby words or phrases that help you figure out what each circled word means.

A Clearer Trail

1. At Pine Ridge Park, volunteers built a new trail through a wet meadow. Before opening day, Maya walked the route with a map. She paused at a narrow bend where the path turned beside a creek. A wooden post stood there, but its faded arrow was hard to read. Maya made a note to replace the sign before visitors arrived.

2. Later, Maya met Luis near the tool shed. He carried a bucket of bright paint and a small brush. "We need a bold color," he said, "so hikers can spot the arrow from far away." They chose orange, then coated the post with two layers. When the paint dried, the arrow looked sharp against the gray wood.

3. On Saturday, the first group of hikers followed the trail. At the bend, they stopped without confusion and crossed the small bridge. One child pointed to the orange arrow and said it was easy to notice. Maya smiled. The fresh sign did more than show direction, it helped the group stay on the safe path and enjoy the meadow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does bend mean in paragraph 1? Which words help you know?

2. What does bold mean in the phrase "a bold color"?

3. What does coated mean in paragraph 2? Use a detail from the passage to explain.

4. What does sharp mean when the arrow "looked sharp against the gray wood"?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a two-sentence mini-scene that uses one challenging word. Include details that show what the word means, then write the meaning in parentheses after your scene.

ANSWER KEY

Trail Sign Clues

GRADE 4 · ELA.4.V.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the words bend, bold, coated, and sharp. Underline the nearby words or phrases that help you figure out what each circled word means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does bend mean in paragraph 1? Which words help you know?	**A curved turn in the path. The clue is "where the path turned beside a creek."**
2	What does bold mean in the phrase "a bold color"?	**Bright or easy to notice. The clue is that hikers could spot the arrow from far away.**
3	What does coated mean in paragraph 2? Use a detail from the passage to explain.	**Covered with paint. The post was covered with two layers of paint.**
4	What does sharp mean when the arrow "looked sharp against the gray wood"?	**Clear and easy to see. The orange arrow stood out against the gray wood.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Nora was famished after soccer practice. She ate two sandwiches, an apple, and a bowl of soup. (famished means very hungry.)

Accept meanings that fit the passage and are supported by nearby clues. For the open task, accept any challenging word when the two sentences provide clear context clues and the stated meaning matches the clues.