Words at Work

Use sentence roles to infer precise meanings.

10.L.V.2.b "Determine the meanings of words and phrases in context by analyzing the function of parts of speech. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every use of shade, record, and light. Above each underlined word, write N for noun, V for verb, or Adj for adjective, then use nearby words to infer its meaning.

Trees Against Heat

1 On summer afternoons, city blocks can hold heat long after the sun lowers. Researchers studying Phoenix, Arizona, have found that pavement and dark roofs absorb sunlight, then release stored warmth slowly. A mature tree can cast broad shade across a bus stop or a playground. That shade is more than a pleasant patch of darkness. It can lower the temperature of a surface beneath it. When planners map neighborhoods, they count tree cover because uneven shade can make one walk feel much hotter than another.

2 To learn where trees help most, volunteers record temperatures at several locations during the same hour. They use digital sensors and note whether each spot lies in direct sun or beneath leaves. Later, the team compares each record with a city map. A record might show a sidewalk reaching 118 degrees, while a nearby shaded sidewalk stays cooler. The contrast helps officials decide where to plant trees. New trees will not cool a whole district immediately, but their growing canopies can eventually shade routes used by people walking to school or waiting for a bus.

3 Tree planting also requires careful choices. A young tree needs regular water, room for roots, and protection from damage. Landscapers often spread a light layer of mulch around the trunk to retain moisture, but they keep it several inches away from the bark. A heavy layer pressed against the trunk can trap moisture and invite decay. Above the tree, light passes through the leaves and supplies energy for photosynthesis. As the tree grows, its roots may lift pavement, so planners choose sites with enough open soil. Careful planning gives a tree a better chance to survive.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what part of speech is shade in the phrase "broad shade," and what does it mean?

2. In paragraph 2, compare record in "volunteers record temperatures" and "each record." How does its part of speech change, and what does each use mean?

3. In paragraph 2, what part of speech is shade in "can eventually shade routes," and what does it mean?

4. In paragraph 3, compare the two uses of light. What part of speech is each use, and what does each mean?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about preparing for an event. Use plan as a noun in one sentence and a verb in the other, then label plan's part of speech and state its meaning after each sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Words at Work

GRADE 10 · 10.L.V.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every use of shade, record, and light. Above each underlined word, write N for noun, V for verb, or Adj for adjective, then use nearby words to infer its meaning. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what part of speech is shade in the phrase "broad shade," and what does it mean?	**Shade is a noun. It means an area protected from direct sunlight, often cooler and darker.**
2	In paragraph 2, compare record in "volunteers record temperatures" and "each record." How does its part of speech change, and what does each use mean?	**In the first use, record is a verb meaning to measure and write down information. In the second use, record is a noun meaning a stored set of information or measurements.**
3	In paragraph 2, what part of speech is shade in "can eventually shade routes," and what does it mean?	**Shade is a verb. It means to cover or protect routes from direct sunlight.**
4	In paragraph 3, compare the two uses of light. What part of speech is each use, and what does each mean?	**In "a light layer," light is an adjective meaning thin or not heavy. In "light passes through the leaves," light is a noun meaning sunlight or radiant energy.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our plan lists the jobs for the school clean-up. [plan: noun, an organized set of steps] We plan the school clean-up during lunch. [plan: verb, organize or decide the steps for]

Accept equivalent meanings when the student correctly identifies how the word functions in each sentence. For Part 3, both uses of plan must fit the sentence context and have accurate noun and verb labels.