

Signals Before Action

Use clues to predict the next event or information.

10.P.EICC.3.e “Make and track predictions about the events and information likely to come next. (I)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that signal what may happen next, then write three numbered predictions in the margin beside the clues that support them.

The 6:30 Broadcast

- ① At 6:10 on Friday, Mara unlocked the school radio station for her volunteer shift. Rain tapped the windows, and the hallway lights flickered after a storm knocked out power in several neighborhoods. On the desk, she found a paper map marked with a red circle around Cedar Bridge and a note: “Broadcast at 6:30. Keep the channel clear.” The station’s usual director, Mr. Ibarra, had not arrived. Mara checked her phone, but the emergency alert system had sent only one message: Avoid low roads near the river.
- ② At 6:24, the transmitter clicked on by itself. A voice, distorted by static, said, “Anyone at WNHS, report conditions at Cedar Bridge.” Mara recognized Mr. Ibarra’s calm way of ending each sentence with “over,” but he did not say it now. She looked again at the map. A blue line traced the river to the bridge, and a second circle marked the town shelter at Lincoln High. Then the front door banged open. Leo, a ninth-grade reporter, stood dripping on the mat and held up a camera with a dead battery.
- ③ Instead of turning on music, Mara opened the station log and wrote 6:27, possible bridge emergency. She asked Leo where he had been. He pointed toward the river and said he had seen cars stopped before Cedar Bridge, though drivers were still arriving from the east. Outside, a siren moved closer. The radio crackled again, but this time only three words were clear: “send warning now.” Mara set the microphone on the desk, glanced at the shelter circle, and waited for Mr. Ibarra to finish the message.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 At the end of paragraph 1, what event is most likely to require the 6:30 broadcast?

2 Which two details in paragraph 2 make the bridge situation seem urgent?

3 What information is Mr. Ibarra most likely to give when he finishes his message? Use two clues from paragraph 3.

4 What will Mara probably do immediately after she hears the full message? Explain why.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a six-sentence suspense scene that ends just before an important event. Include a later clue that strengthens or changes a prediction, then add two one-sentence predictions that name a clue supporting each one.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that signal what may happen next, then write three numbered predictions in the margin beside the clues that support them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	At the end of paragraph 1, what event is most likely to require the 6:30 broadcast?	A storm-related safety warning about unsafe low roads or Cedar Bridge is most likely.
2	Which two details in paragraph 2 make the bridge situation seem urgent?	Mr. Ibarra asks for conditions at Cedar Bridge, and the map marks both the bridge and the town shelter.
3	What information is Mr. Ibarra most likely to give when he finishes his message? Use two clues from paragraph 3.	He will likely warn that Cedar Bridge or nearby roads are unsafe and may direct people toward the shelter. Supporting clues include stopped cars, the approaching siren, and the words “send warning now.”
4	What will Mara probably do immediately after she hears the full message? Explain why.	She will likely use the station microphone to broadcast the warning, because the channel was to be kept clear and the radio message calls for an immediate warning.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

By closing time, Nia was alone in the museum archive. The motion sensor near the loading door blinked red twice, then went dark. On a cart, a crate labeled FRAGILE stood open beside a page from the inventory log. The log showed that a bronze compass had been moved, but no destination was listed. Nia heard the freight elevator stop on the floor below. When she tried the office phone, the line gave only a rapid clicking sound. Prediction 1: Someone moved the compass, because the inventory log lists no destination. Prediction 2: The person may return through the loading door, which strengthens my first prediction because the sensor blinked there.

Accept predictions that are plausible and supported by specific passage details, even if students phrase the event differently. For the open task, check that the scene includes usable clues and that each prediction identifies supporting evidence.