Meaning in Motion

Use grammatical function to uncover meaning in context.

12.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 each word that appears as more than one part of speech in the passage. Number the different uses, then use the surrounding words to infer each meaning.

Mapping City Heat

1 On a summer afternoon, a city block can hold far more heat than a nearby park. To study this difference, climate researchers place sensors on roofs, sidewalks, and shaded lawns. Each sensor can record air temperature, surface temperature, and humidity at set intervals. The resulting record is more than a list of numbers. It helps scientists map the urban heat island, an area where buildings and pavement keep temperatures higher than surrounding rural land. Researchers then compare conditions at the same hour, so a passing cloud does not distort the results.

2 Before interpreting the data, a team must screen it for errors. A loose wire may cause a sensor to report an extreme value, while a parked delivery truck may briefly shade a sidewalk sensor. Technicians flag such readings, but they do not automatically discard them. Instead, they check field notes and nearby instruments. This careful review lets the team separate a true local change from a flawed measurement. The team may revise the data set only when evidence supports the correction and records the reason for each change.

3 After several weeks, analysts model how heat moves through the neighborhood. Their model considers tree cover, roof materials, traffic, and the width of streets. City planners can use the findings to target cool roofs, shade trees, or pavement changes where they may matter most. A single hot reading cannot prove that one solution will work everywhere. Still, a well-designed study can guide decisions by showing patterns rather than relying on impressions. Over time, repeated measurements reveal whether those changes actually lower neighborhood temperatures during summer.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what does record mean in “can record air temperature”? What part of speech is it there?

2. In paragraph 1, what does record mean in “The resulting record”? What part of speech is it there?

3. In paragraph 2, what does screen mean in “must screen it for errors”? Explain how its function in the sentence helps you determine its meaning.

4. In paragraph 3, compare the two uses of model. What does model mean as a verb, and what does it mean as a noun?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about a scientific or civic investigation. Use the same flexible word as a verb in one sentence and as a noun in the other, making each meaning clear through context.

ANSWER KEY

Meaning in Motion

GRADE 12 · 12.L.V.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each word that appears as more than one part of speech in the passage. Number the different uses, then use the surrounding words to infer each meaning. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what does record mean in "can record air temperature"? What part of speech is it there?	**Record is a verb meaning to measure and save or write down data.**
2	In paragraph 1, what does record mean in "The resulting record"? What part of speech is it there?	**Record is a noun meaning the collected set of measurements or documented data.**
3	In paragraph 2, what does screen mean in "must screen it for errors"? Explain how its function in the sentence helps you determine its meaning.	**Screen is a verb. Because the team screens the data for errors, it means to examine or check the data carefully.**
4	In paragraph 3, compare the two uses of model. What does model mean as a verb, and what does it mean as a noun?	**As a verb, model means to create or use a representation of how heat moves. As a noun, model means the representation that includes factors such as tree cover and roof materials.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At noon, volunteers sample water from three points along the river. The sample is tested for lead in a state laboratory.

Accept accurate explanations that use the word's grammatical role and nearby context. For Part 3, accept any two sentences that use the same word correctly as a verb and a noun, with distinct meanings made clear by context.