Bell at Sunset

Use punctuation and word choice to plan an expressive oral reading.

4.F.F.1.c "Read a wide range of grade-level texts aloud with accurate prosody (phrasing, expression, juncture/pause, and intonation) to aid comprehension."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three groups of words you would say smoothly, circle each question mark and exclamation mark, and draw a slash after every comma that signals a short pause.

The Lost Bell

1 At sunset, Maya carried a small brass bell across the park. She had found it near the pond, under a bench covered with leaves. The bell did not ring when she shook it. "Who lost you?" Maya whispered. A chilly wind moved through the tall grass, and the bell gave one tiny chime at last.

2 Maya hurried to the park gate, where Mr. Chen was locking up. "Did anyone ask about a bell?" she called. Mr. Chen looked surprised, then smiled. "Yes, a little boy in a red cap came back twice," he said. "He rang it to call his dog, Pepper." Maya held the bell tightly. Could she find them before dark?

3 Near the playground, Maya heard a boy calling, "Pepper! Pepper, come here!" A spotted dog raced from behind a slide and barked happily. The boy in the red cap laughed with relief. "My bell!" he cried. Maya placed it in his hand. When he rang it, Pepper ran to his side. The clear sound floated over the quiet park.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. When you read Maya's question, "Who lost you?" should your voice rise or fall at the end?

2. Read this sentence aloud: "Mr. Chen looked surprised, then smiled." Where should you make a short pause?

3. In the words "My bell!" which word should you stress most to show the boy's relief?

4. How should you read "Pepper! Pepper, come here!" to match the boy's call?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a two-sentence mini scene about finding something important. Include one question and one exclamation, draw a slash where you would pause, and underline one word you would stress when reading aloud.

ANSWER KEY

Bell at Sunset

GRADE 4 · 4.F.F.1.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three groups of words you would say smoothly, circle each question mark and exclamation mark, and draw a slash after every comma that signals a short pause. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	When you read Maya's question, "Who lost you?" should your voice rise or fall at the end?	**Your voice should rise at the end.**
2	Read this sentence aloud: "Mr. Chen looked surprised, then smiled." Where should you make a short pause?	**Make a short pause after "surprised."**
3	In the words "My bell!" which word should you stress most to show the boy's relief?	**Stress "My."**
4	How should you read "Pepper! Pepper, come here!" to match the boy's call?	**Read it loudly and urgently, with a short pause after the first "Pepper."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The door creaked / slowly, and I froze. "Did you hear that?" I whispered, then shouted, "__Wait__!"

Accept sensible phrase boundaries and stress choices when they match punctuation or details in the passage. For the open task, check for two sentences, a question, an exclamation, a marked pause, and one stressed word.