# Words for the Work

Trace how precise vocabulary changes with setting and purpose.

**9.L.V.1.b** "Use grade-level general, academic, disciplinary, technical, and professional vocabulary to communicate clearly and precisely, adjusting style as appropriate in a variety of settings. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** In each paragraph, underline two words or phrases whose precision fits the setting. In the margin, write a 3- to 5-word description of the likely reader for each paragraph.

### Riverside Footbridge Documents

1. On Tuesday morning, the Riverside Footbridge will close from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. while crews examine damage beneath the deck. Use the marked path beside the library to reach the park entrance. Barriers will block both ramps, but the stairs on the east side will remain open. The closure may change if heavy rain makes the work unsafe. Check the city website after 3:00 p.m. for an update. Please keep bicycles outside the barrier line and give workers room to move equipment safely through the area.

2. Inspection Record, 10:15 a.m.: A visual assessment found longitudinal cracks along the south girder, near the west abutment. The largest crack measures approximately 18 centimeters. Inspectors also noted corrosion on two connection plates and moisture staining around several bolts. No displacement was observed in the handrail posts. The team photographed each condition, measured the affected sections, and assigned locations on a bridge diagram. A structural engineer will review the findings before the bridge reopens. Until that review is complete, the deck should not carry pedestrians, bicycles, or maintenance vehicles.

3. Scope Request: Remove loose concrete from the south girder and clean corrosion from the two identified connection plates. Install temporary support only if the engineer's review requires it. Submit a repair plan that lists materials, work sequence, safety controls, and estimated completion date. The plan must address the crack near the west abutment and protect the adjacent drainage channel from debris. After repairs, provide photographs and measurements showing the completed conditions. Do not begin work until the city approves the plan and issues a notice to proceed.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Quote one phrase from paragraph 1 that helps a reader act safely. Explain why it is clearer than saying only, "Go around."

2. Choose one academic or technical term from paragraph 2. Use nearby words to explain what information the term adds to the record.

3. What is the likely reader for paragraph 1 and for paragraph 2? Give two word-choice clues from each paragraph that support your inference.

4. Quote two phrases from paragraph 3 that make it sound like a formal work request. Explain how the phrases create precise expectations.

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two short messages, 45 to 65 words total, about the same school facility problem. Write one message for other students and one formal message for a facilities office. Use at least one precise, setting-appropriate term in each message.

ANSWER KEY

# Words for the Work

GRADE 9 · 9.L.V.1.b

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, underline two words or phrases whose precision fits the setting. In the margin, write a 3- to 5-word description of the likely reader for each paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Quote one phrase from paragraph 1 that helps a reader act safely. Explain why it is clearer than saying only, "Go around." | **"Use the marked path beside the library." It gives a specific route and a recognizable landmark.** |
| 2 | Choose one academic or technical term from paragraph 2. Use nearby words to explain what information the term adds to the record. | **"Displacement" adds whether the handrail posts had shifted. The record states that no displacement was observed in the posts.** |
| 3 | What is the likely reader for paragraph 1 and for paragraph 2? Give two word-choice clues from each paragraph that support your inference. | **Paragraph 1 likely addresses people using or approaching the bridge, supported by phrases such as "marked path," "ramps," "stairs," and "bicycles." Paragraph 2 likely addresses inspection or engineering personnel, supported by terms such as "longitudinal cracks," "girder," "abutment," and "connection plates."** |
| 4 | Quote two phrases from paragraph 3 that make it sound like a formal work request. Explain how the phrases create precise expectations. | **"Submit a repair plan" and "estimated completion date" create clear required actions and a specific deadline-related detail. "Notice to proceed" is also acceptable because it sets an approval condition before work begins.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Students: The drinking fountain by the gym is off today. Use the fountain near the main office until the water is tested. Facilities Office: Please inspect the gym fountain for a possible valve leak. Post a temporary closure sign, test the water supply, and report the repair schedule to the principal.

Accept reasonable reader inferences when students support them with specific vocabulary from the passage. For the open response, accept varied facility problems if both messages address the same issue, total 45 to 65 words, and show a clear shift from student-friendly language to formal, precise workplace language.