Night Beach Watch

Use grammatical function to clarify word meaning.

9.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 patrol, record, shelter, and release. Write N or V above each underlined word to show whether it functions as a noun or a verb in that sentence.

Protecting Sea Turtle Nests

1 Each summer, sea turtle conservation teams patrol beaches after dark, looking for fresh tracks in the sand. A patrol may cover only a few miles, but its members work slowly because a nest can be easy to miss. When they find one, volunteers record its location, the species, and signs of danger, such as nearby lights or tire marks. This record helps biologists compare nesting activity from one season to the next. Teams avoid touching eggs unless flooding, erosion, or another serious threat makes moving a nest necessary.

2 At some sites, workers place a screen over a nest to protect it from predators. The screen is not a shelter from heat, however, so teams choose materials that allow air and rain to pass through. If a high tide is likely to wash away the eggs, trained staff may shelter the clutch in a protected hatchery until conditions improve. They check temperature because warmer and cooler sand can influence the sex ratio of many sea turtle species. A daily record of these checks reveals whether the hatchery is working as intended.

3 After hatchlings emerge, teams usually wait until evening before they release them near the water. Darkness can reduce exposure to some daytime predators and helps prevent the hatchlings from overheating on open sand. The release must occur close enough to the shore for the young turtles to crawl across the beach, a movement scientists think helps them orient themselves. During one release, observers count hatchlings that reach the surf and note obstacles, including artificial lights. Those observations can guide local efforts to make nesting beaches safer.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what does patrol mean in the sentence "sea turtle conservation teams patrol beaches"? What part of speech is patrol there?

2. In paragraph 1, compare "volunteers record its location" with "This record helps biologists." How does the part of speech change the meaning of record?

3. In paragraph 2, what does shelter mean in "The screen is not a shelter from heat" and in "staff may shelter the clutch"? Identify the part of speech in each use.

4. In paragraph 3, compare "they release them near the water" with "The release must occur close enough to the shore." What does release mean in each sentence?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about a community project. Use the same word once as a noun and once as a verb, and label each use with (N) or (V).

ANSWER KEY

Night Beach Watch

GRADE 9 · 9.L.V.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every use of patrol, record, shelter, and release. Write N or V above each underlined word to show whether it functions as a noun or a verb in that sentence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what does patrol mean in the sentence "sea turtle conservation teams patrol beaches"? What part of speech is patrol there?	**Patrol is a verb meaning to travel along and watch or search the beaches.**
2	In paragraph 1, compare "volunteers record its location" with "This record helps biologists." How does the part of speech change the meaning of record?	**In "volunteers record," record is a verb meaning write down information. In "This record," it is a noun meaning the written information or document.**
3	In paragraph 2, what does shelter mean in "The screen is not a shelter from heat" and in "staff may shelter the clutch"? Identify the part of speech in each use.	**Shelter is a noun meaning protection or cover in the first use. It is a verb meaning protect or place in a safe location in the second use.**
4	In paragraph 3, compare "they release them near the water" with "The release must occur close enough to the shore." What does release mean in each sentence?	**In "they release them," release is a verb meaning let the hatchlings go. In "The release," it is a noun meaning the event of letting hatchlings go.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The river-cleanup schedule (N) lists the sites volunteers will visit. Organizers schedule (V) the hardest site for Saturday morning.

Accept responses that correctly identify noun and verb functions and give context-supported meanings. For Part 3, accept any appropriate same-spelling word used once as a noun and once as a verb in two complete sentences.