Words in the Pledge

Read closely to find what important words mean.

2.SS.4.5 "Examine the meaning of keywords in the Pledge of Allegiance."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline pledge, allegiance, liberty, and justice in the sentences that explain them. Circle the nearby words that tell what each one means.

What Do the Words Mean?

1. Maya hears her class say the Pledge of Allegiance. She wonders what the words mean. A pledge is a serious promise. Allegiance means loyalty, or standing by someone or something. This pledge is about the United States and its flag.

2. Maya hears the words "liberty and justice for all." Liberty means freedom. People can share their ideas and make many choices. Justice means treating people fairly by the same rules. These words tell Maya what people want for everyone.

3. At recess, Maya sees two children take turns choosing a game. Each child gets a fair turn. Maya thinks about justice. Later, she chooses which book to read. She thinks about liberty. The Pledge uses big words for ideas people care about.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does pledge mean?

2. What does allegiance mean?

3. What do liberty and justice each mean?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a choice or a fair action at school that is different from the ones in the passage. Write two sentences: use liberty or justice to explain your idea, then tell how it connects to "for all" in the Pledge.

ANSWER KEY

Words in the Pledge

GRADE 2 · 2.SS.4.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline pledge, allegiance, liberty, and justice in the sentences that explain them. Circle the nearby words that tell what each one means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does pledge mean?	**A pledge is a serious promise.**
2	What does allegiance mean?	**Allegiance means loyalty, or standing by someone or something.**
3	What do liberty and justice each mean?	**Liberty means freedom. Justice means treating people fairly by the same rules.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At school, justice means everyone gets a turn using the class markers. That is fair for all, not just my friends.

Accept a new school example that shows freedom or fairness. The second sentence should connect the idea to everyone, not just one person.