Finding the Way

Use direction and distance to describe relative location.

6-9.WG.2.3 "Describe the relative location of people, places, and objects by using positional words, including but not limited to cardinal directions and distance."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each direction word and underline each phrase that gives a distance so you can trace positions from one place to another.

A Walk Through Alder

1. In the imaginary town of Alder, volunteers are planning a neighborhood safety walk. The library stands at the center of their route. The park is one block west of the library, and the clinic is one block east of it. Two blocks north of the library is the fire station. The school is two blocks south of the library. Each block on this route is about the same length. Knowing these locations helps the volunteers give clear directions without naming every street.

2. The bakery stands one block west of the school. A supply cart waits outside the bakery, and a water station stands just east of the school gate. During the walk, Maya starts at the fire station and heads south to the school. Her group will stop at the library on the way. A student at the park needs to reach the clinic for a first-aid lesson, so Maya describes the clinic's position using the library as a landmark. The student can then follow the route.

3. A pedestrian bridge is three blocks east of the clinic. The river runs north to south beneath the bridge. A guide stands at the bridge, while a bicycle rack sits just west of the clinic entrance. At the end of the walk, volunteers compare their directions. “Near the river” does not tell someone which way to go or how far. “Three blocks east of the clinic” gives both a direction and a distance, so a visitor can find the bridge.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. From the park, which direction and how far is the clinic?

2. From the fire station, which direction and how far is the school?

3. Where is the bicycle rack compared with the clinic entrance?

4. Where is the guide compared with the clinic?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a neighborhood with a market, a bus stop, a playground, and a person carrying a package. In three sentences, locate the bus stop, playground, and person relative to a named place or person, using cardinal directions and giving a distance in blocks at least twice.

ANSWER KEY

Finding the Way

GRADES 6-9 · 6-9.WG.2.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each direction word and underline each phrase that gives a distance so you can trace positions from one place to another. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	From the park, which direction and how far is the clinic?	**The clinic is two blocks east of the park.**
2	From the fire station, which direction and how far is the school?	**The school is four blocks south of the fire station.**
3	Where is the bicycle rack compared with the clinic entrance?	**The bicycle rack is just west of the clinic entrance.**
4	Where is the guide compared with the clinic?	**The guide is at the bridge, three blocks east of the clinic.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The bus stop is two blocks north of the market. The playground is one block east of the bus stop. A person carrying a package stands just south of the playground.

For questions 1 and 2, students must combine distances on opposite sides of the library. For Your Turn, accept any three internally consistent locations that meet the direction and distance requirements.