# The Bell Hunt

Follow a story through its paragraph breaks and transitions.

**4.W.3.b** "Organize events that unfold naturally, using meaningful paragraphing and transitional words and phrases."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Circle the transition at the start of paragraphs two and three. Then write "missing," "search," or "found" beside the paragraph that focuses on each part of the story.

### The Missing Parade Bell

1. On Saturday morning, I set my little brass bell beside my bike while I tied my shoes. Our neighborhood parade would start soon, and I had promised to ring the bell at the front. When I turned back, the bell was gone. I checked the grass near the bike, but I saw only a trail of muddy paw prints leading toward our porch.

2. A moment later, I followed the paw prints to the porch. My dog, Pepper, lay beside the steps, wagging his tail. I looked under the steps and behind the flowerpots, but the bell was nowhere in sight. As I searched, Pepper picked up his rope toy and trotted around the corner of the house. I hurried after him, hoping he knew something I did not.

3. Just then, Pepper pawed at a large bucket in the backyard, and I heard a faint jingle. I lifted the bucket and found the bell beneath it, safe but dusty. Pepper must have carried it there while he played. I brushed off the bell and raced back to my bike. By the time the parade began, I was ready to ring it.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why does a new paragraph begin with “A moment later”?

2. After following the paw prints, where does the narrator look first? Where does the narrator look next?

3. What happens at the end of paragraph two that leads naturally to the backyard in paragraph three?

4. How does “Just then” connect paragraph three to the search in paragraph two?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one paragraph about searching for an object you misplaced. Begin with a time transition, show at least two places you check in order, and end as soon as you find the object.

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## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the transition at the start of paragraphs two and three. Then write “missing,” “search,” or “found” beside the paragraph that focuses on each part of the story. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Why does a new paragraph begin with “A moment later”? | **The story moves from noticing the bell is missing to following the paw prints and searching for it.** |
| 2 | After following the paw prints, where does the narrator look first? Where does the narrator look next? | **The narrator looks under the steps first, then behind the flowerpots.** |
| 3 | What happens at the end of paragraph two that leads naturally to the backyard in paragraph three? | **Pepper trots around the corner of the house, and the narrator follows him.** |
| 4 | How does “Just then” connect paragraph three to the search in paragraph two? | **It shows that Pepper paws at the bucket while the search is still going on, leading to the discovery of the bell.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Later that afternoon, I noticed my blue pencil case was missing. First, I checked the kitchen table, but only my math book was there. Next, I searched the couch cushions and found a few crumbs. Then I remembered doing homework on the porch. I hurried outside and spotted my pencil case beneath the porch chair.

For the marking job, accept “missing” for paragraph one, “search” for paragraph two, and “found” for paragraph three. For Your Turn, accept any single paragraph with a time transition, at least two search locations in a clear order, and a final event in which the object is found.