Creek Word Clues

Use reference entries to read field notes precisely

L.8.4.c "Consult print and digital reference materials to find the pronunciation and determine or clarify the precise meaning of key words and phrases."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle silt, channel, deposit, and current. Give each word and its matching pronunciation and meaning the same number, then underline the reference source used.

Maya's Creek Notes

1. At the edge of the town creek, Maya watched a storm turn clear water brown. She wrote, "The creek looks turbid," but paused before reading her note aloud. A print dictionary gave the pronunciation TUR-bid and defined turbid as cloudy because small particles float in a liquid. That definition fit the muddy water better than "dark," which could describe water shaded by trees. Maya wrote the pronunciation above the word and underlined "small particles" in the definition. The reference helped her explain what she had actually seen.

2. Farther downstream, a thin layer of silt covered the stones. Maya's print dictionary listed silt (SILT) as very fine particles of sand or soil carried and left behind by water. Near a bend, she spotted a narrow channel where the current ran faster than it did over the shallow stones. The same dictionary listed channel (CHAN-uhl) with several meanings, including a deeper passage for flowing water and a television station. Maya noted which meaning matched her creek notes before she went home.

3. At home, Maya opened a digital science glossary to check two more words from her notes. It listed deposit as a verb, dih-POZ-it, meaning to leave material in a place. Maya had written that the creek could deposit sand where its water slowed. The glossary also listed current as a noun, KUR-uhnt, meaning the steady movement of water in one direction. Her note said the current pushed a leaf past the bridge. Each entry gave her a way to say the word and a meaning that suited her observation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the print dictionary say to pronounce silt, and what precise meaning fits the stones in Maya's note?

2. Which dictionary meaning of channel fits Maya's creek note? Explain why the other meaning listed does not fit.

3. How does the digital glossary say to pronounce deposit, and what does the verb mean in Maya's note?

4. Use the digital glossary entry and Maya's note about the leaf to explain how to pronounce current and what it means here.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a word from the passage that Maya did not check in a reference. Consult a print or digital dictionary, then write the word, its pronunciation, the meaning that fits the passage, and a passage clue that supports your choice.

ANSWER KEY

Creek Word Clues

GRADE 8 · L.8.4.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle silt, channel, deposit, and current. Give each word and its matching pronunciation and meaning the same number, then underline the reference source used. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the print dictionary say to pronounce silt, and what precise meaning fits the stones in Maya's note?	**Silt is pronounced SILT. It means very fine particles of sand or soil carried and left behind by water.**
2	Which dictionary meaning of channel fits Maya's creek note? Explain why the other meaning listed does not fit.	**Channel means a deeper passage for flowing water. A television station cannot be a place in the creek where water runs.**
3	How does the digital glossary say to pronounce deposit, and what does the verb mean in Maya's note?	**Deposit is pronounced dih-POZ-it. It means to leave material, in this case sand, in a place.**
4	Use the digital glossary entry and Maya's note about the leaf to explain how to pronounce current and what it means here.	**Current is pronounced KUR-uhnt. It means the steady movement of water in one direction, which pushed the leaf past the bridge.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I checked bend in a digital dictionary. It is pronounced BEND. Here it means a curve in the creek's path. The phrase “near a bend” shows that Maya is describing a place along the creek.

Accept accurate pronunciations in another clear notation and equivalent, context-appropriate meanings. For Your Turn, accept any passage word not checked by Maya if the student identifies a reference source and supports the chosen meaning with a passage clue.