

Garden Sayings

Use context to explain idioms, adages, and proverbs.

5L5.b "Recognize and explain the meaning of common idioms, adages, and proverbs."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the five idioms, adages, or proverbs in the passage. Number them 1 through 5, then use nearby words to help you explain each saying.

A Garden Workday

- ① On Saturday, Maya joined the school garden team to rebuild raised beds. At first, the group had different ideas about where to place the beds. Ms. Ortiz asked everyone to share a plan. Soon they were on the same page, meaning they agreed about the work. Maya smiled because working together would make the morning easier.
- ② First, the team pulled weeds near the fence. The soil was loose, so this task was a piece of cake for Maya. Then she spotted a small crack in a wooden bed. Mr. Lee fixed it before it grew wider. He said, "A stitch in time saves nine," because solving a small problem early can prevent a larger repair.
- ③ Rain began just as the team carried compost. Nobody quit. Maya said, "Every cloud has a silver lining," when the rain filled the dry watering barrel. Later, Omar quietly returned borrowed tools and swept the path. Ms. Ortiz nodded and said, "Actions speak louder than words." Omar had shown that he cared about the garden instead of only saying so.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does “on the same page” mean in the first paragraph? What did the team do that shows this meaning?

2 Why was pulling weeds “a piece of cake” for Maya? Explain what the idiom means.

3 Explain the meaning of “A stitch in time saves nine.” How did Mr. Lee’s action show its meaning?

4 What does “Every cloud has a silver lining” mean in this situation? Then explain how Omar showed that “Actions speak louder than words.”

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two sentences about a school task. Use one common idiom, adage, or proverb that does not appear in the passage, then explain what it means in your situation.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the five idioms, adages, or proverbs in the passage. Number them 1 through 5, then use nearby words to help you explain each saying. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does “on the same page” mean in the first paragraph? What did the team do that shows this meaning?	It means to agree. The team shared plans and agreed about the work.
2	Why was pulling weeds “a piece of cake” for Maya? Explain what the idiom means.	It means very easy. Pulling weeds was easy because the soil was loose.
3	Explain the meaning of “A stitch in time saves nine.” How did Mr. Lee’s action show its meaning?	It means fixing a small problem early can prevent a bigger problem later. Mr. Lee fixed the small crack before it grew wider.
4	What does “Every cloud has a silver lining” mean in this situation? Then explain how Omar showed that “Actions speak louder than words.”	The proverb means something good can come from a difficult situation. The rain filled the dry watering barrel. Omar returned tools and swept the path, showing he cared through his actions.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before the spelling test, I told myself to keep my chin up. I meant that I should stay hopeful even if some words were hard.

Accept a common idiom, adage, or proverb not used in the passage if the student uses it in a clear situation and gives an accurate context-based explanation. Wording may vary as long as the meaning is correct.