

Clues in Flight

Use nearby words to check a tricky word as you read.

5RF4.b "Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle three words you can check with context. Underline the nearby words that help you confirm each word's meaning or correct how you first read it.

The Falcon Watch

- ① At sunrise, Maya watched a peregrine falcon on a rocky ledge above the river. The bird stood still, then launched into the air. A smaller bird crossed the open sky below. The falcon folded its wings close to its body and began a steep dive. This hunting dive is called a stoop. It gained speed quickly.
- ② Maya reread the next part when she reached the word talons. The falcon pulled out its sharp, curved talons just before it reached the smaller bird. Its feet, not its beak, held the catch. The falcon then carried its prey to a nest high on a cliff. A nest site like this is called an aerie.
- ③ Before leaving, Maya wrote notes about the falcon's route. It returned to the ledge twice and scanned the water and trees. She first read *perched* as *pitched*, but rereading changed her understanding. The falcon was resting on the ledge, not throwing anything. Maya understood that *perched* described a bird sitting or resting in one place.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does *stoop* mean in the first paragraph? Which nearby words help you decide?

2 The word *talons* might be new to you. Which two details tell what talons are?

3 Use the words around *prey* to tell what prey is in this passage.

4 What word did Maya self-correct, and what detail helped her correct it?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence mini-passage about an animal. Include one challenging word, underline it, and give clues to its meaning in the other sentences. Then write what the word means.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle three words you can check with context. Underline the nearby words that help you confirm each word's meaning or correct how you first read it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does <i>stoop</i> mean in the first paragraph? Which nearby words help you decide?	A stoop is a fast, steep hunting dive. Clues include "steep dive," "hunting dive," and "gained speed quickly."
2	The word <i>talons</i> might be new to you. Which two details tell what talons are?	They are sharp and curved, and they are on the falcon's feet, not its beak.
3	Use the words around <i>prey</i> to tell what prey is in this passage.	Prey is the animal the falcon caught or hunted.
4	What word did Maya self-correct, and what detail helped her correct it?	She corrected perched, which she first read as pitched. The detail that the falcon was resting on the ledge, not throwing anything, helped her.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A beaver built a lodge beside the pond. Its family slept inside the stick-and-mud home. At dawn, a beaver swam out through the underwater entrance. Lodge means the beaver's home.

Accept reasonable meanings supported by nearby details, even if students use different words as context clues. For Part 3, accept any animal passage with an underlined challenging word, clear context clues, and a matching meaning.