Listen for the Plan

Find a speaker's purpose and ask what you still need to know.

4.1.L.2 "Students will actively listen and interpret a speaker's verbal messages and ask questions to clarify the speaker's purpose."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Listen as your teacher reads Ms. Ortiz's announcement aloud while your page is face down. Then read the passage, underline two clues to her main purpose, and circle one detail you would ask her to make clearer.

An Announcement from Ms. Ortiz

1. Good morning, fourth graders. This is Ms. Ortiz with a request from the garden club. On Saturday, we will plant seeds in the school garden. Before we plant, we need to move dry soil into the raised beds. Small scoops would help us move the soil without spilling it. We can make sturdy scoops from empty plastic milk jugs, but we do not have enough yet.

2. If your family has an empty plastic milk jug, please rinse it and bring it to school this week. Leave the cap on so the jug can be carried easily. Do not buy a new jug just for us. I will cut the jugs into scoops, since the cutting tool is too sharp for students to use. You can help by collecting a jug, not by cutting it.

3. Some of you asked whether you must bring a jug to join the planting day. You do not. Everyone is welcome, even if you cannot bring anything. I will tell you where to leave the jugs when I visit your class tomorrow. If you have a question about which jugs we can use, please ask me then. Your questions will help us collect the right supplies.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is Ms. Ortiz's main reason for speaking to the class? Give one clue from her announcement.

2. Why does Ms. Ortiz say she will cut the jugs herself? What does she want students to do instead?

3. A classmate says, "I cannot bring a jug, so I should stay home Saturday." What does Ms. Ortiz want that classmate to understand?

4. Ms. Ortiz says planting is Saturday, but she does not give a time. What question could you ask to clarify her plan?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

After listening to Ms. Ortiz's announcement, imagine you have an empty plastic milk jug at home. Write two sentences to her: explain how you could help with her garden plan, then ask one question about a detail she did not explain. Do not ask where to leave the jug.

ANSWER KEY

Listen for the Plan

GRADE 4 · 4.1.L.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Listen as your teacher reads Ms. Ortiz's announcement aloud while your page is face down. Then read the passage, underline two clues to her main purpose, and circle one detail you would ask her to make clearer. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is Ms. Ortiz's main reason for speaking to the class? Give one clue from her announcement.	**She wants students to bring empty plastic milk jugs so she can make scoops for moving garden soil. She says the garden club does not have enough jugs.**
2	Why does Ms. Ortiz say she will cut the jugs herself? What does she want students to do instead?	**The cutting tool is too sharp for students. She wants them to collect, rinse, and bring in empty plastic milk jugs.**
3	A classmate says, "I cannot bring a jug, so I should stay home Saturday." What does Ms. Ortiz want that classmate to understand?	**The classmate can still join the planting day. Ms. Ortiz says everyone is welcome, even if they cannot bring anything.**
4	Ms. Ortiz says planting is Saturday, but she does not give a time. What question could you ask to clarify her plan?	**What time does the planting begin on Saturday?**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I can rinse our empty plastic milk jug and bring it to school this week so you can make a scoop. Does the jug need to be a certain size?

Accept a purpose supported by the announcement and a clarification question about a detail it leaves open. For Part 3, the first sentence should describe a way to help with Ms. Ortiz's plan, and the second should ask about an unexplained detail other than where to leave the jug.