Listen for the Ask

Find a speaker's purpose and notice what still needs clarification.

6.1.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 Underline two requests Maya makes, number the two groups that receive different directions, and circle a detail you would ask about to understand what she wants you to do.

Maya's Morning Announcement

1 Hi, everyone. Last month, the zipper on my backpack broke, and I thought I needed a new bag. Our custodian showed me how to move the stuck fabric and make the zipper work again. That small fix kept a useful bag out of the trash. Next Thursday, our school will hold a Fix-It Lunch in the library. If you have a backpack with a stuck zipper or a loose strap, you may be wondering whether it is worth bringing.

2 A few students and adults will show simple repairs, such as sewing a loose strap. No one will charge money, and you do not need to know how to sew. We cannot promise to fix every bag during one lunch period, but we can help you decide what to try next. Please do not bring bags with sharp metal pieces or mold. Those need an adult's help outside school. You can also stop by just to watch, even if your own bag is fine.

3 I hope you will help make this lunch useful for our whole school. Bring a bag that needs a small repair, or come ready to learn and share a skill. If you already know how to sew, tell me before Wednesday so I can plan enough seats. If you want help with a bag, put your name on the library list by Wednesday. We have only twenty seats, so I need to know who is coming. I will be by the library door after this meeting if you have questions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is Maya's main purpose in making this announcement? Give one request from her message that supports your answer.

2. Why does Maya say that repairs are free and students do not need to know how to sew? What response does she likely want from listeners?

3. What does Maya want students who can sew to do? What does she want students who need help with a bag to do?

4. Maya says students can stop by just to watch, but she also says she needs to know who is coming. What could you ask to clarify what she wants watchers to do?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are speaking at morning meeting to invite students to a one-day school book swap. Write a three- or four-sentence announcement that makes your purpose clear, but leaves one important detail unclear, then write a question a careful listener could ask about that detail.

ANSWER KEY

Listen for the Ask

GRADE 6 · 6.1.L.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two requests Maya makes, number the two groups that receive different directions, and circle a detail you would ask about to understand what she wants you to do. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is Maya's main purpose in making this announcement? Give one request from her message that supports your answer.	**Maya wants students to take part in Fix-It Lunch. She asks students who want help with a bag to put their names on the library list.**
2	Why does Maya say that repairs are free and students do not need to know how to sew? What response does she likely want from listeners?	**She wants students to know they can take part without paying or having repair skills, so they may decide to attend.**
3	What does Maya want students who can sew to do? What does she want students who need help with a bag to do?	**Students who can sew should tell Maya before Wednesday. Students who want help with a bag should put their names on the library list by Wednesday.**
4	Maya says students can stop by just to watch, but she also says she needs to know who is coming. What could you ask to clarify what she wants watchers to do?	**Should students who only plan to watch put their names on the library list before Wednesday?**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On Friday, our class is hosting a book swap in the library. Bring a book you have finished and choose a different book to take home. I hope you will join us and give a book a new reader. Clarifying question: Can students join if they do not bring a book?

Accept answers that identify Maya's invitation and support it with a request from the announcement. For question 4, accept any question that clarifies whether watchers need to tell Maya or sign up before Wednesday.