Listen for Clues

Listen to a recorded bulletin and evaluate its message.

7.DL.13 "Interpret language through active listening to determine subject, occasion, audience, purpose, tone, and credibility of digital sources."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Teacher: record the three paragraphs, performing the pauses and calm, slow delivery rather than reading the cue labels. Give students only the questions/response sheet (PDF page 2); retain this source page and key. Play twice and replay on request. Collect first answers before sharing this transcript.

Practice Recording: The Courtyard Gate Bulletin

1. Transcript from the Ridgeway Middle School audio bulletin, posted on the school website Monday morning. [Short bell sound.] Host Maya says, "If you walk to the buses by the east courtyard, listen up. After Sunday's heavy rain, a wide puddle covered part of that path. The school has closed the east courtyard gate until staff can check the ground beneath the pavement. Families picking up students should use the front entrance today. We know this changes your usual route, so please allow a few extra minutes."

2. Maya continues, speaking slowly: "Mr. Chen, the school facilities manager, checked the gate at 7:15 this morning. He told me that the pavement near the puddle looked uneven, but he has not found the cause yet. I checked the school website before recording, and its alert also says the gate is closed. A photo posted in a group chat might show a crack, but we cannot tell when or where that photo was taken. Please do not share it as proof."

3. [A pause.] Maya says, "We are sharing what we know now, not guessing about damage. If staff reopen the gate, the school website will post a new alert. Until then, use the front entrance for pickup and follow the signs to the buses. If you spot water pooling somewhere else, tell an adult at school instead of stepping into it to test its depth." The bell returns softly. Maya adds, "This bulletin is for students and families making travel plans today."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. After listening, what is the bulletin's subject, and what occasion prompted it?

2. Who is the intended audience, and what does Maya want them to do?

3. Describe the tone you actually heard. Give one audible delivery detail and explain its effect.

4. Name one reason to trust the bulletin and one reason to remain uncertain about the pavement.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Record a three-sentence fictional library announcement with a named source for its hours. Exchange recordings with a partner and listen without scripts. Write four sentences identifying subject and occasion, audience and purpose, the tone actually heard, and one credibility check.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Teacher: record the three paragraphs, performing the pauses and calm, slow delivery rather than reading the cue labels. Give students only the questions/response sheet (PDF page 2); retain this source page and key. Play twice and replay on request. Collect first answers before sharing this transcript. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	After listening, what is the bulletin's subject, and what occasion prompted it?	**It is about the closed east courtyard gate. Sunday's heavy rain left a puddle on the path, prompting the Monday bulletin.**
2	Who is the intended audience, and what does Maya want them to do?	**Students and families are the audience. Maya wants them to plan a different route, use the front entrance for pickup, and follow signs to the buses.**
3	Describe the tone you actually heard. Give one audible delivery detail and explain its effect.	**Accept a supported description of the actual recording, such as calm or cautious speech with a measured pace and pause. Do not credit unperformed sound cues.**
4	Name one reason to trust the bulletin and one reason to remain uncertain about the pavement.	**The gate closure matches a school website alert, and Maya names the facilities manager who checked it. The cause of the uneven pavement is still unknown.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The recording announces new weekend hours before Saturday visits. It addresses library visitors so they can plan a trip. I heard a steady voice emphasizing the hours, which made the message sound practical. A named branch manager is a helpful clue, but I would confirm current hours on a dated library notice.

Record this fictional practice bulletin on a classroom device before the task. Perform a short bell sound at the start and end if feasible; otherwise omit that cue and do not credit invented sounds. Read spoken words clearly, using the slow pace and pause. Accept tone claims supported by what was actually played. Require partner recording/playback; text-only completion does not demonstrate active listening.