The Sleepy Dragon

Read a puppet-show story with phrasing and expression.

3.RF.4.b "Read grade-appropriate texts in a variety of genres with accuracy, appropriate rate, and prosody (stress, phrasing, intonation, and expression)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the story aloud, underline three commas where you would pause briefly, and circle two words you would stress to show a character's feelings.

A Show on a Rainy Day

1 Rain tapped the windows of the town library. Leo and Nia had planned a puppet show outside, but the yard was soaked. Nia held up a paper dragon with a bent wing. “We can still perform,” she said. Leo looked at the quiet reading room. “Can we do it in here?” he asked. The librarian smiled and pointed to an empty corner beside the shelves.

2 Leo pulled a blue scarf across two chairs to make a stage. Nia lifted the dragon over the scarf, but its bent wing flopped down. “Oh no!” she cried. Leo reached for a piece of tape. “Wait,” Nia said, “the dragon can be sleepy.” She let the dragon droop and gave it a long, loud yawn. Two children nearby began to giggle.

3 Then Leo brought out a tiny paper knight. “Are you awake, Dragon?” he asked. Nia made the dragon blink and stretch. “I am now!” she boomed. The knight jumped back, and the children laughed. When the show ended, the librarian clapped. “Next time,” she said, “let’s try the big table.” Leo grinned. A rainy day had turned into a bright new plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How could Leo's voice sound at the end of “Can we do it in here?” to show that he is asking for an answer?

2. Which words in the story help you decide to read “Oh no!” with a worried voice?

3. Where would you pause in “Nia lifted the dragon over the scarf, but its bent wing flopped down” to make the change clear?

4. Which word would you stress in “I am now!” to show that the dragon was sleepy before? Why?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two new lines of dialogue between the knight and the dragon. Make the first line a yes-or-no question and the second an excited answer. Underline one word to stress in the answer, and add ↑ just before the question mark to show your voice rising.

ANSWER KEY

The Sleepy Dragon

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the story aloud, underline three commas where you would pause briefly, and circle two words you would stress to show a character's feelings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How could Leo's voice sound at the end of "Can we do it in here?" to show that he is asking for an answer?	**His voice could rise slightly at the end.**
2	Which words in the story help you decide to read "Oh no!" with a worried voice?	**The dragon's bent wing "flopped down," and Nia "cried" the words.**
3	Where would you pause in "Nia lifted the dragon over the scarf, but its bent wing flopped down" to make the change clear?	**Pause briefly after "scarf," at the comma before "but."**
4	Which word would you stress in "I am now!" to show that the dragon was sleepy before? Why?	**Stress "now" to show the dragon has just woken up.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Knight: Will you fly again tomorrow↑?
Dragon: Yes, I <u>will</u>!

Accept other well-supported choices for expression and stress. In Part 3, check that the answer fits the question and that the arrow and underline show how to read the lines aloud.