Kite Words

Read a story, then use its details to unlock word meanings.

5.RL.4 "Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language (e.g., personification, hyperbole) and connotative meanings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two phrases that give the wind or kite human actions. Circle the phrase that makes the knots seem much bigger than they were.

More Stories Left

1. On Saturday, I carried Grandpa's kite to the park. Its blue paper was torn, and the tail dragged through the grass like a tired snake. "It won't fly," I muttered. Grandpa handed me a roll of tape and a bag of cloth scraps. "That kite has more stories left," he said. The wind tapped my shoulder, as if it wanted me to begin.

2. We spread the kite on a picnic table. Grandpa held the frame steady while I patched the paper with bright squares of cloth. Then I reached the tail. It had a mountain of knots. I pulled one string, and the whole tangle tightened. "Slow down," Grandpa said. "Find the loose end." I searched until one yellow thread slipped free.

3. At last, we ran across the field. The kite wobbled above us, then caught a steady gust. Its patched tail danced in the sunlight. I had called the cloth scraps junk, but now they looked like treasure against the blue sky. Grandpa grinned as the kite rose higher. "See?" he said. "A few tears don't mean the end of a story."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the narrator mean when the wind seems to tap their shoulder?

2. Why does the narrator call the knots "a mountain"? What does that phrase tell you about the job?

3. What does "wobbled" mean when the kite first rises? Which nearby detail helps you tell?

4. How do the words "junk" and "treasure" show the narrator's changing feelings about the cloth scraps?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are fixing a different worn object, such as a backpack or toy. Write three sentences about it. Give the object one human action, use one exaggeration, and choose words that show how your feelings about it change.

ANSWER KEY

Kite Words

GRADE 5 · 5.RL.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two phrases that give the wind or kite human actions. Circle the phrase that makes the knots seem much bigger than they were. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the narrator mean when the wind seems to tap their shoulder?	**The wind makes the narrator feel urged to start fixing the kite.**
2	Why does the narrator call the knots "a mountain"? What does that phrase tell you about the job?	**It exaggerates how many knots there are and shows that untangling them feels difficult.**
3	What does "wobbled" mean when the kite first rises? Which nearby detail helps you tell?	**The kite moved unsteadily. It caught a steady gust only after it wobbled.**
4	How do the words "junk" and "treasure" show the narrator's changing feelings about the cloth scraps?	**"Junk" shows the narrator first saw the scraps as worthless. "Treasure" shows the narrator now values how they look on the kite.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My old backpack begged for help when its zipper split. I had a million loose threads to trim before I could sew on a new patch. At first I called it shabby, but when I finished, I thought it looked bold.

Accept interpretations supported by nearby details. For the open task, look for three sentences with a human action given to an object, a clear exaggeration, and words that show a change in feeling.