The Right Entry

Use reference sources to choose precise meanings and pronunciations.

9-10.L.4.c "Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses) to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline *draft*, *turbidity*, and *record*, then circle a context clue that helps Mara choose the right meaning or pronunciation for each.

Words for the Harbor Exhibit

1. At the harbor museum, Mara helped write labels for an exhibit about a shoreline where river water meets the sea. Her first label called the inlet an *estuary*, then described a *draft* of a map found in a sailor's notebook. She checked a general dictionary before printing the label. It listed *draft* as both "a current of air" and "a preliminary version of a document or drawing." The notebook page showed erased lines and later corrections, so Mara chose the second meaning. The dictionary also traced *estuary* to Latin *aestuarium*, a word connected to the tide.

2. Next, Mara examined a water sample collected after a storm. The jar looked cloudy, but she did not want to call the water dirty. A coastal science glossary defined *turbidity* as the cloudiness of water caused by particles suspended in it. The same glossary defined *salinity* as the amount of dissolved salt in water. Mara wrote that stirred-up mud had increased the sample's turbidity, not its salinity. A general dictionary gave her a broader definition of cloudy, but the specialized glossary supplied the precise scientific term her label needed.

3. For an audio guide, Mara needed to say the word *record* aloud. A dictionary entry marked the noun *record*, meaning "a stored account," as REK-erd. It marked the verb *record*, meaning "to capture information," as rih-KORD. Her script said, "We record changes in the estuary each month," so she used the verb pronunciation. A thesaurus offered *document* as a possible replacement, but Mara checked the dictionary again: *document* could also mean a written item. She kept *record* because the guide described an action, not a paper on display.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which dictionary meaning of *draft* fits the notebook page? What detail helps you choose?

2. Why does the coastal science glossary support *turbidity* rather than *salinity* for the storm sample?

3. In Mara's audio script, what part of speech is *record*, and how should she pronounce it?

4. According to the dictionary information Mara found, what is the origin of *estuary*, and what is its earlier meaning connected to?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a word not used in the passage that has two meanings, and consult a dictionary. Name the dictionary, give the word's pronunciation, and write two original sentences using different meanings; for each sentence, state the word's part of speech and the precise meaning you used.

ANSWER KEY

The Right Entry

HIGH SCHOOL · 9-10.L.4.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline *draft*, *turbidity*, and *record*, then circle a context clue that helps Mara choose the right meaning or pronunciation for each. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which dictionary meaning of *draft* fits the notebook page? What detail helps you choose?	**It means a preliminary version of a document or drawing. The map has erased lines and later corrections.**
2	Why does the coastal science glossary support *turbidity* rather than *salinity* for the storm sample?	**Turbidity is cloudiness caused by suspended particles, such as stirred-up mud. Salinity measures dissolved salt.**
3	In Mara's audio script, what part of speech is *record*, and how should she pronounce it?	**It is a verb meaning to capture information, pronounced rih-KORD.**
4	According to the dictionary information Mara found, what is the origin of *estuary*, and what is its earlier meaning connected to?	**It comes from Latin aestuarium, a word connected to the tide.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Dictionary: Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Word: scale. Pronunciation: SKAYL. The baker placed the flour on a scale. Here scale is a noun meaning a device for weighing. The model train was built at a scale of one inch to one foot. Here scale is a noun meaning the ratio between a model's measurements and the corresponding actual measurements.

Accept accurate paraphrases of the reference definitions and pronunciation. For Your Turn, verify that the two original sentences use distinct dictionary meanings and that each part of speech is correct.