

# Falcons Above Town

Use details from a text to support each response.

**4.7.C** "use text evidence to support an appropriate response;"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline every detail that explains where peregrine falcons nest, how they hunt, challenges they face, or how people help them. Number the details you underline in each paragraph so you can point to evidence when you respond.

### City Peregrines

- ① Each spring, a pair of peregrine falcons may nest on a tall building in a city. The birds use high ledges because the ledges are similar to cliffs, where peregrines naturally nest. From this perch, an adult can watch for pigeons and other birds. Some cities place nest boxes on buildings to give the falcons a safer spot to raise chicks.
- ② When hunting, peregrines fly high above their prey, then fold their wings and dive. During a fast dive, called a stoop, a peregrine can travel more than 200 miles per hour. This speed helps the bird catch other birds in the air. In busy cities, however, young falcons must also learn to avoid windows, traffic, and people below.
- ③ During the mid-1900s, peregrine falcons became rare in many parts of North America. A chemical called DDT built up in their food and caused eggshells to become too thin. After DDT was banned in the United States in 1972, protection programs helped many populations recover. Scientists and volunteers still watch nest sites, band some chicks, and share information about the birds.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** What two details support the idea that tall city buildings can be good nesting places for peregrine falcons?

---

---

**2** A student says, "Peregrine falcons are strong hunters in the air." What evidence from the passage supports this response?

---

---

**3** What evidence supports the response that DDT harmed peregrine falcons?

---

---

**4** What two details support the idea that people can help peregrine falcons survive?

---

---

**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

A city council is deciding whether to add peregrine nest boxes to tall buildings. Write a three-sentence recommendation that states your decision and uses two details from different paragraphs as evidence.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline every detail that explains where peregrine falcons nest, how they hunt, challenges they face, or how people help them. Number the details you underline in each paragraph so you can point to evidence when you respond. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                  | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What two details support the idea that tall city buildings can be good nesting places for peregrine falcons?              | <b>High ledges are similar to the cliffs where peregrines naturally nest, and nest boxes can give the falcons a safer place to raise chicks.</b>      |
| 2 | A student says, "Peregrine falcons are strong hunters in the air." What evidence from the passage supports this response? | <b>A peregrine can travel more than 200 miles per hour during a dive, and this speed helps it catch other birds in the air.</b>                       |
| 3 | What evidence supports the response that DDT harmed peregrine falcons?                                                    | <b>DDT built up in the falcons' food and caused their eggshells to become too thin. Peregrine falcons became rare in many parts of North America.</b> |
| 4 | What two details support the idea that people can help peregrine falcons survive?                                         | <b>Cities can place nest boxes on buildings, and protection programs helped many peregrine populations recover after DDT was banned.</b>              |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

The city council should add nest boxes to tall buildings. Peregrines use high ledges like cliffs, and nest boxes give them a safer place to raise chicks. Because DDT once made the birds rare in many areas, protecting nest sites can support their continuing recovery.

Accept accurate paraphrases or quoted details that clearly support the student's response. For the open task, accept either decision if it has three sentences, a clear recommendation, and two accurate details from different paragraphs.