

Clues in the Cup

Use nearby words to figure out new meanings.

2.RV.1.A “Discuss meanings of new words or phrases acquired through conversations and literature.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or phrases that help you figure out the meaning of a new word or phrase. Circle the new word or phrase that the clues explain.

Mina's Bean Plant

- ① Mina carried a paper cup to the park. Inside, a tiny bean seed rested under soil. Her grandpa said, “Keep it damp, not dry. A damp seed has enough water to begin growing.”
- ② Each morning, Mina checked the cup. On Tuesday, she saw a pale sprout poking through the soil. “It is fragile,” Grandpa said. “Be gentle, because its thin stem can bend or break easily.”
- ③ By Friday, two leaves had opened. Mina felt proud as the plant leaned toward the sunny window. Grandpa called the leaves “new growth,” meaning the fresh parts of a plant that have just formed.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 In paragraph 1, what does damp mean? What words help you know?

2 In paragraph 2, what does fragile mean? What words help you know?

3 What does the phrase new growth mean in paragraph 3?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a new word or phrase you have heard in a book or conversation. Write two sentences: use it in the first sentence with clues, then tell what it means in the second.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words or phrases that help you figure out the meaning of a new word or phrase. Circle the new word or phrase that the clues explain. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what does damp mean? What words help you know?	Damp means having some water, not dry. The clues are "not dry" and "enough water."
2	In paragraph 2, what does fragile mean? What words help you know?	Fragile means easy to bend or break. The clues are "thin stem" and "can bend or break easily."
3	What does the phrase new growth mean in paragraph 3?	New growth means fresh parts of a plant that have just formed.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My brother said the puppy was eager, so it jumped by the door and wagged its tail because it could not wait for a walk. Eager means excited and ready for something.

Accept equivalent meanings when students use clues from the passage. For Part 3, accept a new word or phrase, context clues in the first sentence, and a reasonable meaning in the second sentence.