Garden Clue Hunt

Use story clues to discuss tricky words and phrases.

5.RV.1.B "Discuss meanings of complex words and phrases acquired through conversations and literature."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three words or phrases whose meanings you can figure out from the story. Circle at least two nearby words or actions that give clues for each one.

The Rainy Garden Sale

1. On the morning of the school garden sale, Maya found the seedling table soaked by a surprise storm. She felt a knot of worry tighten in her stomach as water dripped from the paper signs. Instead of panicking, she gathered dry boxes from the hallway and moved the plants beneath the gym awning. Her friend Luis carried trays beside her.

2. By noon, customers began arriving, but the muddy path became an obstacle. Maya did not throw in the towel. She spread old boards across the wet ground, creating a safer walkway. When the principal saw the change, he said Maya had shown remarkable resourcefulness. Maya smiled, although her shoes were covered in brown splatters too.

3. Later, a strong wind rattled the awning and sent a price list flying. Luis froze, yet Maya kept her wits about her. She chased the paper, weighed its corners with smooth stones, and checked that each tray was secure. The sale continued, and the students earned enough money to buy compost and new watering cans for the garden.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does “a knot of worry” most likely mean? Which details in the paragraph help you decide?

2. What does “did not throw in the towel” mean in this story? Use Maya’s next action as evidence.

3. What does “remarkable resourcefulness” mean? Explain how Maya shows it.

4. What does “kept her wits about her” most likely mean? Name two actions that support your answer.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence scene about a person solving a problem. Include one complex word or phrase whose meaning readers can infer from two context clues, then write one sentence explaining the phrase and naming the clues.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Clue Hunt

GRADE 5 · 5.RV.1.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three words or phrases whose meanings you can figure out from the story. Circle at least two nearby words or actions that give clues for each one. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does “a knot of worry” most likely mean? Which details in the paragraph help you decide?	**It means Maya felt very worried or nervous. The soaked table, dripping signs, and surprise storm are clues.**
2	What does “did not throw in the towel” mean in this story? Use Maya’s next action as evidence.	**It means she did not give up. She spread boards across the muddy path to solve the problem.**
3	What does “remarkable resourcefulness” mean? Explain how Maya shows it.	**It means being especially good at finding useful solutions. Maya uses old boards to make a safer walkway.**
4	What does “kept her wits about her” most likely mean? Name two actions that support your answer.	**It means Maya stayed calm and thought clearly during the wind. She chased the price list, weighed it down with stones, and checked the trays.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

When the bus arrived late, Nia did not let the delay derail her plan. She opened her map, chose a shorter walking route, and reached the museum before her group entered. Her teacher noticed that Nia was flexible under pressure. “Derail her plan” means let the problem stop her, and the map and new route are clues.

Accept reasonable meanings that fit the passage and are supported by nearby actions or details. For the open task, accept varied phrases if the scene provides at least two clear context clues and the explanation matches them.