Falcon Word Clues

Use related and opposite words to unlock meaning.

5.RV.1.E "Apply knowledge of grade-level appropriate synonyms and antonyms to better understand each word."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each pair of words connected by "or" that has almost the same meaning. Circle each pair of words that shows opposite meanings, then use the pairs to help you understand the words.

Peregrine Falcons in the City

1. On a tall bridge tower, a peregrine falcon watches the river below. The bird is swift, or very fast, when it dives for prey. Its sharp eyes can spot a pigeon from far away, while people on the sidewalk may see only a tiny shape. Although the falcon seems fierce, it usually avoids people and protects its nest quietly.

2. During spring, a pair may choose a ledge that is sheltered rather than exposed to wind and rain. The parents take turns warming the eggs. One adult leaves to hunt, and the other remains at the nest. After the chicks hatch, their soft down changes slowly into strong flight feathers. The young birds begin close to home, but later travel farther.

3. City wildlife workers sometimes place a small band around a falcon's leg. The band does not make the bird tame, or easy to handle. Instead, it helps scientists identify, or recognize, the same bird later. Records show whether a falcon stays in one area or moves to another. By comparing these records, scientists learn which nesting places are safe and which places may be dangerous.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the word fast help you understand swift in paragraph 1?

2. The ledge is sheltered rather than exposed to wind and rain. What does exposed most likely mean?

3. One adult leaves to hunt, and the other remains at the nest. What does remains mean?

4. What word in paragraph 3 means almost the same as identify?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about an animal you know. Include one pair of synonyms and one pair of antonyms to make your meaning clear.

ANSWER KEY

Falcon Word Clues

GRADE 5 · 5.RV.1.E

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each pair of words connected by “or” that has almost the same meaning. Circle each pair of words that shows opposite meanings, then use the pairs to help you understand the words. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the word fast help you understand swift in paragraph 1?	**Swift means very fast.**
2	The ledge is sheltered rather than exposed to wind and rain. What does exposed most likely mean?	**Open and not protected from wind and rain.**
3	One adult leaves to hunt, and the other remains at the nest. What does remains mean?	**Stays at the nest.**
4	What word in paragraph 3 means almost the same as identify?	**Recognize.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The beaver is busy, or active, as it gathers branches near the pond. Its lodge is sturdy, not weak, during a storm.

Accept equivalent meanings for the questions when they are supported by the paired words in the passage. For Part 3, accept any two original sentences about an animal that include a clear synonym pair and a clear antonym pair.