Proofreading Compass

Use dictionaries and specialized sources to verify spelling.

8.LU.2.D "Consult reference materials to check and correct spelling."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each word or name in quotation marks that needed a spelling check, then number the reference sources in the order Maya consulted them. This shows how different references can help you confirm a spelling.

A Careful Museum Label

1. At Harborview Museum, Maya drafted a label for a nineteenth-century ship's compass. Her first version said, "This intrument helped captains keep a steady direction during a journy." Before printing the label, Maya circled intrument and journy. She knew a guessed spelling could confuse visitors and make the exhibit seem careless. Instead of relying on memory, she opened a desk dictionary and searched for each word near the guide words at the tops of the pages.

2. The dictionary listed instrument, not intrument, and journey, not journy. Maya copied the correct spellings into her revised label. Next, she wanted to add a sentence about the compass needle. Her draft used the word "magnetized," but she was unsure whether it needed one or two n's. A digital dictionary showed magnetized with one n. Maya also read the definition to make sure the word fit: a magnetized needle responds to Earth's magnetic field.

3. For names and specialized terms, Maya used more than a general dictionary. The museum's collection database gave the maker's name as "Edward Nairne," and a local-history book confirmed the spelling. She compared both sources before adding the name to the label. Maya saved a note naming the references she had consulted. Her final label was easier to trust because every uncertain word, name, and term had been checked in a source designed to provide reliable spelling.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Correct the two misspelled words in Maya's first version of the label.

2. What reference did Maya use first, and what feature helped her find the words?

3. How did Maya check the spelling of "magnetized," and what else did she check before using it?

4. Which two sources confirmed the maker's name, and why did Maya compare them?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a two-sentence, 35-50-word caption for a school display about a historical object. Use a print or digital dictionary to check two words in your caption, then list the two checked words and the reference you used.

ANSWER KEY

Proofreading Compass

GRADE 8 · 8.LU.2.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each word or name in quotation marks that needed a spelling check, then number the reference sources in the order Maya consulted them. This shows how different references can help you confirm a spelling. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Correct the two misspelled words in Maya's first version of the label.	**intrument → instrument; journy → journey**
2	What reference did Maya use first, and what feature helped her find the words?	**She used a desk dictionary and used the guide words at the tops of the pages.**
3	How did Maya check the spelling of "magnetized," and what else did she check before using it?	**She used a digital dictionary, then read the definition to make sure the word fit.**
4	Which two sources confirmed the maker's name, and why did Maya compare them?	**The museum's collection database and a local-history book. She compared them to confirm the spelling before adding the name to the label.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

An astrolabe helped sailors estimate latitude by measuring the height of stars above the horizon. Its carefully engraved scale made navigation more reliable when ships traveled across wide oceans without familiar landmarks to guide them. Checked words: astrolabe, navigation; Reference: Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary

Accept accurate corrections and equivalent descriptions of the references Maya used. For Part 3, accept any factual caption that meets the sentence and word-count requirements and identifies two words checked in a named print or digital dictionary.