Clues in Pairs

Use word relationships to unlock meaning in an informational text.

8.RV.1.D "Use the relationship between particular words, including synonyms, antonyms, and analogies to better understand each word."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or phrases that show similar or opposite meanings. Circle the analogy that compares a firebreak to something else, then use these relationships to understand unfamiliar words.

How Forests Respond to Fire

1 After a wildfire, a forest can look barren, or empty of living plants. Yet beneath the blackened ground, some seeds remain dormant, meaning inactive but alive. Heat from certain fires cracks the hard coating around those seeds. The change is not gentle. Flames are fierce, while the new sprouts that appear later are delicate. By comparing fierce with delicate, readers can see how quickly the forest shifts from a harsh scene to a fragile beginning.

2 Firefighters sometimes create a firebreak, a cleared strip of land that slows or stops a fire. Think of a firebreak as a moat around a castle. A moat blocks an invading army's path, and a firebreak blocks flames from reaching unburned trees. The goal is to contain the blaze, not to extinguish every spark at once. Contain is the opposite of let loose. Crews may work rapidly, but they must also act cautiously, because a rushed decision can place people in danger.

3 Scientists study fires to learn which conditions make them more likely. A dry, windy afternoon can be perilous, or dangerous, especially when vegetation is parched. Parched is stronger than merely dry. A damp forest floor, by contrast, may resist ignition. This contrast helps researchers predict where a small flame could grow into a large wildfire. Their work is like checking a weather forecast before a trip: both use clues to anticipate, or foresee, what may happen next.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what does dormant mean? Name the nearby words that help you decide.

2. How do contain and let loose relate in paragraph 2? What does their relationship show about a firebreak's goal?

3. Explain the firebreak and moat analogy. What job does each one do?

4. What does anticipate mean in paragraph 3? Which related word supports your answer?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about a natural event or safety tool not named in the passage. In one sentence, use a word with a synonym or antonym that clarifies it. In the other sentence, use an analogy to explain an idea.

Clues in Pairs

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words or phrases that show similar or opposite meanings. Circle the analogy that compares a firebreak to something else, then use these relationships to understand unfamiliar words. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what does dormant mean? Name the nearby words that help you decide.	**Dormant means inactive but alive. The phrase "inactive but alive" gives the meaning.**
2	How do contain and let loose relate in paragraph 2? What does their relationship show about a firebreak's goal?	**They are opposites. A firebreak is meant to stop or limit a fire's spread, not allow it to spread freely.**
3	Explain the firebreak and moat analogy. What job does each one do?	**A moat blocks an invading army's path, and a firebreak blocks flames from reaching unburned trees.**
4	What does anticipate mean in paragraph 3? Which related word supports your answer?	**Anticipate means to foresee or predict what may happen next. The related word is "foresee."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A life jacket keeps a swimmer buoyant, or afloat, even in rough water. A life jacket is like a pool noodle because both help keep a swimmer above water.

Accept equivalent meanings that are supported by the relationships in the passage. For the open task, accept any accurate two-sentence response with a clear synonym or antonym relationship and a logical analogy.