

Bridge Voice Map

Plan expression for a short dramatic recitation.

9.C.2.B “Memorize and accurately recite a short selection from a longer text demonstrating inflection and meaningful expression that is appropriate to the tone and voice of the selection.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, write 1 beside words you would say slowly and in a lower voice to show seriousness, 2 beside words you would say louder or stronger to show determination, and 3 after words where you would pause to create reflection or suspense. Use the marks to plan a recitation that matches Maya's changing tone and voice.

The Bridge Vote

- ① At the town meeting, Maya stepped to the microphone while rain tapped against the library windows. The council planned to close the old footbridge over Alder Creek because repairing its railings would cost money. Maya had crossed that bridge since kindergarten, first with her grandfather and later on her own way to school. She looked at the maps spread across the table and took one careful breath. “I know the bridge is old,” she began. “I know it needs work. But it is not only wood and bolts. It is a path between our neighborhoods.”
- ② Maya lifted a photograph of the bridge crowded with walkers after last spring’s flood. “When the road was underwater, this bridge stayed above the current,” she said, her voice steadier now. “Neighbors carried groceries across it. A nurse used it to reach Mr. Vale when he was ill. We did not ask whether the bridge was fashionable. We asked whether it could carry us home.” The room grew quiet. Maya let the silence remain for a moment, then pointed toward the rain-dark windows. “Tonight, that creek is rising again. Listen to what the water is telling us.”
- ③ Maya placed both hands on the table. “I am not asking you to preserve the bridge because it belongs to my childhood. I am asking you to repair it because it belongs to everyone who must cross it tomorrow. Find the funds. Ask volunteers to help. Close the bridge for repairs if you must, but do not erase it from the map.” Her final words were quieter, yet each one was clear. “A town is measured by the routes it keeps open, especially when the weather turns against us.” No one applauded at first. Then Mr. Vale stood, holding his cane, and said, “Keep the bridge.”

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 In paragraph 1, copy Maya's two repeated sentences in the order she says them.

2 After which spoken sentence in paragraph 2 is a pause especially supported by the narration?

3 Copy the three short commands in paragraph 3 that should be delivered with a firmer, stronger voice.

4 At the end of paragraph 3, what should change in Maya's delivery, and what should stay the same?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose and copy a continuous 45 to 60 word section from Maya's speech. Add two slash marks for pauses, circle at least two words to emphasize, write one sentence explaining how your tone changes, then memorize and recite the section.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

As you read, write 1 beside words you would say slowly and in a lower voice to show seriousness, 2 beside words you would say louder or stronger to show determination, and 3 after words where you would pause to create reflection or suspense. Use the marks to plan a recitation that matches Maya's changing tone and voice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, copy Maya's two repeated sentences in the order she says them.	"I know the bridge is old." "I know it needs work."
2	After which spoken sentence in paragraph 2 is a pause especially supported by the narration?	"We asked whether it could carry us home."
3	Copy the three short commands in paragraph 3 that should be delivered with a firmer, stronger voice.	"Find the funds." "Ask volunteers to help." "Close the bridge for repairs if you must, but do not erase it from the map."
4	At the end of paragraph 3, what should change in Maya's delivery, and what should stay the same?	Her volume should become quieter, but her words should remain clear.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

"I am ☐not☐ asking you to preserve the bridge because it belongs to my childhood. / I am asking you to repair it because it belongs to ☐everyone☐ who must cross it tomorrow. / ☐Find☐ the funds. Ask volunteers to help. Close the bridge for repairs if you must, but ☐do not☐ erase it from the map." Tone note: I begin in a reflective, controlled voice and end in a firm, urgent voice as Maya's request becomes a demand.

Accept reasonable 1, 2, and 3 markings when the student can connect each choice to the passage's serious, urgent, or reflective moments. For Part 3, check that the copied selection contains 45 to 60 continuous passage words, includes the required marks and one-sentence tone explanation, and is recited accurately with meaningful expression.