Name: _____ Date: _____

Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

Circle group

Ms. Greer picked Tavi to read the morning announcements, and Tavi felt proud. Then she looked at the list. The first line said, "Congratulations to Ngozichukwu Adebayo-Szymanski for winning the art prize."

Tavi's stomach flipped. Once a substitute teacher had said a boy's name wrong in front of the class. The boy had gone red to his ears. Tavi did not want to do that to anyone.

On Monday morning, she practiced in the hall. She got the name wrong four times. Her friend Penn laughed, and then felt bad. "Why not just ask her?" he said.

It was such an easy idea that Tavi felt silly. At recess she found the girl with the art prize. "Can you teach me to say your name?" she asked. "I want to get it right."

The girl grinned. She said the name slowly, one piece at a time. Tavi wrote the sounds on her hand in marker: en-GO-zee-CHOO-koo. She said it again and again until it felt easy.

The next morning, Tavi pushed the button on the intercom. Her voice shook at first. Then it got steady. When she came to the long name, she said it clearly, with every piece in place.

After lunch, the girl stopped her in the hall. She did not say a word. She just smiled like someone who had been heard.

Questions

1. What job did Ms. Greer give Tavi?

_____

_____

2. Why was Tavi nervous when she saw the list?

_____

_____

3. What idea did Penn give her?

_____

_____

4. How did Tavi remember the sounds of the name?

_____

_____

5. Why did Tavi feel silly about Penn's idea?

_____

_____

6. Why did the girl smile at Tavi without saying anything?

_____

_____

Words to know

announcements: news that is shared out loud with a group
intercom: a system for speaking to rooms through speakers

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

Triangle group

When Ms. Greer picked Tavi to read the morning announcements, Tavi felt proud. Then she looked at the list. The first line said, "Congratulations to Ngozichukwu Adebayo-Szymanski for winning the art prize."

Tavi's stomach flipped. She had once heard a substitute teacher mangle a name in front of the class, and the poor boy had gone red to his ears. She did not want to do that to anyone.

On Monday morning, she practiced in the hallway and got the name wrong four times. Her friend Penn laughed, and then felt bad about laughing. "Why not just ask her?" he said.

It was such an obvious idea that Tavi was embarrassed. At recess she found the girl with the art prize and said, "Can you teach me to say your name? I want to get it exactly right."

The girl grinned. She said the name slowly, one piece at a time, and Tavi wrote the sounds in marker on her hand: en-GO-zee-CHOO-koo. She repeated it until it felt natural.

The next morning, Tavi pressed the button on the intercom. Her voice shook for the first few words, and then it steadied. When she reached the long name, she said it clearly, with every piece in place.

After lunch, the girl stopped her in the hall. She did not say anything. She just smiled like someone who had been heard.

Questions

1. What job did Ms. Greer give Tavi?

_____

_____

2. Why was Tavi nervous when she saw the list?

_____

_____

3. What idea did Penn give her?

_____

_____

4. How did Tavi remember the sounds of the name?

_____

_____

5. Why did Tavi feel embarrassed about Penn's idea?

_____

_____

6. Why did the girl smile at Tavi without saying anything?

_____

_____

Words to know

announcements: news that is shared out loud with a group
mangle: to say or do something badly
intercom: a system for speaking to rooms through speakers
natural: easy and not forced
steadied: became calm and even

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

Square group

When Ms. Greer chose Tavi to read the morning announcements, Tavi felt enormously proud. Then she glanced down at the list. The first line read, "Congratulations to Ngozichukwu Adebayo-Szymanski for winning the art prize."

Tavi's stomach flipped. She had once heard a substitute teacher mangle a name in front of the whole class, and the poor boy had turned red to the tips of his ears. She did not want to do that to anyone.

On Monday morning, she rehearsed in the hallway and got the name wrong four times in a row. Her friend Penn laughed and then immediately felt guilty about it. "Why don't you just ask her?" he suggested.

It was such an obvious idea that Tavi was embarrassed she had not thought of it. At recess she tracked down the girl with the art prize and said, "Could you teach me to say your name? I want to pronounce it exactly right."

The girl grinned. She said the name slowly, one piece at a time, and Tavi wrote the sounds in marker across her palm: en-GO-zee-CHOO-koo. She repeated them until they felt completely natural.

The next morning, Tavi pressed the button on the intercom. Her voice trembled for the first few words, and then it steadied. When she reached the long name, she said it clearly, with every piece in place.

After lunch, the girl stopped her in the hallway. She did not say anything at all. She simply smiled like someone who had finally been heard.

Questions

1. What job did Ms. Greer give Tavi?

_____

_____

2. Why was Tavi nervous when she looked at the list?

_____

_____

3. What idea did Penn suggest?

_____

_____

4. How did Tavi remember the sounds of the name?

_____

_____

5. Why was Tavi embarrassed about Penn's idea?

_____

_____

6. Why did the girl smile at Tavi without speaking?

_____

_____

Words to know

announcements: news that is shared out loud with a group
mangle: to say or do something badly
intercom: a system for speaking to rooms through speakers
natural: easy and not forced
steadied: became calm and even

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

Easier · 230 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.3

1. Reading the morning announcements.
2. The first line had a long name she did not know how to say.
3. To ask the girl with the art prize how to say her name.
4. She wrote them on her hand in marker and said them again.
5. It was so easy that she should have thought of it.
6. She was glad Tavi had taken time to say her name right.

Triangle: Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

This passage · 234 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.7

1. Reading the morning announcements.
2. The first line had a long name that she did not know how to say.
3. To ask the girl with the art prize how to say her name.
4. She wrote them in marker on her hand and repeated them.
5. It was so simple that she should have thought of it herself.
6. She was happy that Tavi had taken the time to say her name correctly.

Square: Tavi Reads the Morning Announcements

Harder · 256 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.7

1. Reading the morning announcements.
2. The first line contained a long name she did not know how to say.
3. To ask the girl with the art prize how to say her name.
4. She wrote the sounds in marker on her palm and repeated them.
5. It was so obvious that she felt she should have thought of it.
6. She was happy that Tavi had taken the trouble to say her name correctly.