Name: _____ Date: _____

Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

Circle group

Grandpa Wendell got his first smartphone on his seventieth birthday. The phone soon decided it knew better than he did. Every word he typed, it changed.

On Monday he texted his daughter, "I am bringing pies to dinner." The phone sent, "I am bringing pigs to dinner." His daughter wrote back in a panic. Where would she put them? Grandpa laughed so hard he had to sit down.

On Tuesday he told his neighbor, "See you at the duck pond." The phone sent, "See you at the dock pound." The neighbor looked for an hour. He searched for a pound, a dock, and a puzzled lady who sold fish.

On Wednesday his granddaughter Lena called. "Grandpa, you wrote that you are delighted to be a lemon. I think you meant a pilot?"

"I meant I'm delighted to see the melon," said Grandpa.

Lena giggled. "Let's fix this together." She showed him how to read each message before he sent it. She showed him how to tap a word the phone had changed. She turned off the setting that made the worst changes.

By Friday the messages were clear. Grandpa said he missed some of the old ones. "The pigs were my best work," he said. Now he kept the strangest texts in a folder named Phone's Fault. Every holiday he read the funniest ones aloud.

Questions

1. What did the phone do to Grandpa's words?

_____

_____

2. What did Grandpa mean to write to his daughter?

_____

_____

3. Who helped Grandpa fix the problem?

_____

_____

4. What two things did Lena show Grandpa?

_____

_____

5. Why did the daughter write back in a panic?

_____

_____

6. How does Grandpa feel about the mistakes by the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

puzzled: confused and not sure what is going on

delighted: very pleased and happy

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: _____

Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

Triangle group

Grandpa Wendell received his first smartphone on his seventieth birthday, and the phone immediately decided that it knew better than he did. Every word he typed, it changed into something else.

On Monday, he texted his daughter, "I am bringing pies to dinner." The phone sent, "I am bringing pigs to dinner." His daughter wrote back in a panic, asking where she was supposed to put them, and Grandpa laughed so hard that he had to sit down.

On Tuesday, he told his neighbor, "See you at the duck pond." The phone sent, "See you at the dock pound." The neighbor spent an entire hour searching for a pound, a dock, and a puzzled lady who sold fish.

On Wednesday, his granddaughter Lena called. "Grandpa, you wrote that you are delighted to be a lemon. I think you meant a pilot?"

"I meant that I'm delighted to see the melon," said Grandpa.

Lena giggled. "Let's fix this together." She showed him how to read each message carefully before he sent it, and how to tap on any word that the phone had changed. She even turned off the feature that made the worst changes.

By Friday, the messages were clear, although Grandpa admitted that he missed some of the old ones. "The pigs were my best work," he said. Now he saved the strangest texts in a folder named Phone's Fault, and every holiday he read the funniest ones aloud.

Questions

1. What did the phone do to Grandpa's words?

_____

_____

2. What did Grandpa mean to write to his daughter?

_____

_____

3. Who helped Grandpa fix the problem?

_____

_____

4. What two things did Lena show Grandpa?

_____

_____

5. Why did the daughter write back in a panic?

_____

_____

6. How does Grandpa feel about the mistakes by the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

immediately: right away, with no delay
puzzled: confused and not sure what is going on
delighted: very pleased and happy
feature: a special part or setting of a tool
admitted: said that something was true

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: _____

Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

Square group

Grandpa Wendell received his very first smartphone on his seventieth birthday, and the phone immediately concluded that it understood language better than he did. Every word he typed, it transformed into something else entirely.

On Monday, he texted his daughter, "I am bringing pies to dinner." The phone sent, "I am bringing pigs to dinner." His daughter wrote back in a panic, demanding to know where she was supposed to put them, and Grandpa laughed so hard that he had to sit down.

On Tuesday, he told his neighbor, "See you at the duck pond." The phone sent, "See you at the dock pound." The bewildered neighbor spent an entire hour searching for a pound, a dock, and a puzzled lady who sold fish.

On Wednesday, his granddaughter Lena telephoned. "Grandpa, you wrote that you are delighted to be a lemon. I think you meant a pilot?"

"I meant that I'm delighted to see the melon," said Grandpa.

Lena giggled. "Let's fix this together." She showed him how to read each message carefully before he sent it, and how to tap on any word that the phone had altered. She even disabled the feature that produced the most outrageous changes.

By Friday, his messages were perfectly clear, although Grandpa confessed that he missed some of the old ones. "The pigs were my best work," he said. Now he collected the strangest texts in a folder named Phone's Fault, and every holiday he read the funniest ones aloud.

Questions

1. What did the phone do to Grandpa's words?

_____

_____

2. What did Grandpa mean to write to his daughter?

_____

_____

3. Who helped Grandpa fix the problem?

_____

_____

4. What two things did Lena show Grandpa?

_____

_____

5. Why did the daughter write back in a panic?

_____

_____

6. How does Grandpa feel about the mistakes by the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

immediately: right away, with no delay
puzzled: confused and not sure what is going on
delighted: very pleased and happy
feature: a special part or setting of a tool

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: Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

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

Circle: Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

Easier · 225 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. It kept changing them into other words, which made funny mistakes.
2. That he was bringing pies to dinner.
3. His granddaughter Lena.
4. How to read each message before sending it and how to tap a changed word to fix it.
5. She thought her father was really bringing pigs and she did not know where to put them.
6. He finds them funny and keeps the strangest ones.

Triangle: Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

This passage · 240 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5

1. It kept changing them into different words, which caused funny mistakes.
2. That he was bringing pies to dinner.
3. His granddaughter Lena.
4. How to read each message before sending it and how to tap a changed word to fix it.
5. She thought her father was really bringing pigs, and she did not know where they would stay.
6. He finds them funny, and he saves the strangest ones as a keepsake.

Square: Grandpa Wendell and the Rebellious Phone

Harder · 247 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.2

1. It kept transforming them into different words, which caused funny mistakes.
2. That he was bringing pies to dinner.
3. His granddaughter Lena.
4. How to read each message carefully before sending it and how to tap a changed word to correct it.
5. She believed that her father was truly bringing pigs, and she had no idea where they would stay.
6. He finds them hilarious, and he saves the strangest ones as a keepsake.