Where Rain Goes

Find how a writer organizes information about rainwater.

4.LF.23.a "Identify and describe the structures within a text, including description, comparison and contrast, sequence, problem and solution, and cause and effect."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details in paragraph 1 that contrast the blacktop and the garden, number the three steps in paragraph 2, and circle one sentence that states the problem and one that tells the solution in paragraph 3.

A Garden That Catches Rain

1 After a storm, rainwater rushes across the blacktop beside Maple School. Beside it sits a rain garden, a shallow dip in the ground filled with soil, grasses, and flowers. The blacktop is hard, so water runs over it. The garden has loose soil, so much of the water can soak in. Both places get wet when it rains, but they handle the water in different ways.

2 Here is what happens when rain falls on the school grounds. First, water flows from the blacktop toward a low opening at its edge. Next, the water spreads across the rain garden instead of racing down the sidewalk. Then, some of it sinks through the soil. Because the water slows and soaks in, less water reaches the nearby storm drain at once.

3 Last spring, a heavy storm left a wide puddle beside the school's walkway. Students had to step around it to keep their shoes dry. The grounds crew dug the rain garden near that spot and guided water into it. Now, in an ordinary rain, much of the water collects in the garden instead of on the path. During a very heavy storm, puddles may still form.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the writer contrast the blacktop and the rain garden?

2. What three steps show the order rainwater moves after it lands on the blacktop?

3. What causes less water to reach the storm drain at once?

4. What problem did students face, and how did the grounds crew try to solve it?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about an everyday problem other than rainwater. State the problem, describe a solution, and explain one effect of that solution.

ANSWER KEY

Where Rain Goes

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.23.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details in paragraph 1 that contrast the blacktop and the garden, number the three steps in paragraph 2, and circle one sentence that states the problem and one that tells the solution in paragraph 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the writer contrast the blacktop and the rain garden?	**Water runs over the hard blacktop, but much of it soaks into the garden's loose soil.**
2	What three steps show the order rainwater moves after it lands on the blacktop?	**It flows toward an opening, spreads across the rain garden, and then sinks through the soil.**
3	What causes less water to reach the storm drain at once?	**The water slows down and soaks into the garden's soil.**
4	What problem did students face, and how did the grounds crew try to solve it?	**A puddle formed beside the walkway. The crew dug a rain garden nearby and guided water into it.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our hallway gets noisy when classes leave at the same time. Teachers ask each class to wait until the group ahead has turned the corner. As a result, fewer students crowd the hall, and it is easier to hear directions.

Accept answers that identify the same text structures using different words. For Your Turn, look for three sentences that connect a problem to a solution and an effect.