Fairground Fixes

PROVE IT: Pick one item from each category and explain how you knew.

7.LL.21.a "Revise their own writing using correct mechanics with a focus on commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, colons, and semicolons."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CORRECT

A semicolon can join two related complete thoughts without a joining word. Each side could stand alone as a sentence.

Owls hooted; moonlight filled the valley.

NEEDS REVISION

A comma by itself cannot join two complete thoughts. You could replace it with a semicolon or add a joining word after the comma.

Rain poured, puddles covered the path.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CORRECT or REVISE for each school fair update.

1. The lights flickered, the crowd waited. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
2. The curtain lifted; the dancers bowed. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
3. The bell rang; the judges entered. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
4. The tickets sold out, the line kept growing. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
5. The microphone squealed, the singer paused. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
6. The game ended, the winners cheered. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
7. The doors opened; the families rushed in. **CORRECT** **REVISE**
8. The music stopped, the volunteers cleaned up. **CORRECT** **REVISE**

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new school fair example that is CORRECT and one that belongs in REVISE.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Revise your REVISE example in two ways: use a semicolon, then use a comma followed by a joining word.

ANSWER KEY # Fairground Fixes

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The lights flickered, the crowd waited.	**REVISE**	A comma alone joins two complete thoughts.
2	The curtain lifted; the dancers bowed.	**CORRECT**	A semicolon joins two related complete thoughts.
3	The bell rang; the judges entered.	**CORRECT**	A semicolon joins two related complete thoughts.
4	The tickets sold out, the line kept growing.	**REVISE**	A comma alone joins two complete thoughts.
5	The microphone squealed, the singer paused.	**REVISE**	A comma alone joins two complete thoughts.
6	The game ended, the winners cheered.	**REVISE**	A comma alone joins two complete thoughts.
7	The doors opened; the families rushed in.	**CORRECT**	A semicolon joins two related complete thoughts.
8	The music stopped, the volunteers cleaned up.	**REVISE**	A comma alone joins two complete thoughts.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT**: The raffle began; the principal drew a ticket.
- **REVISE**: The raffle ended, the band began.

Challenge: The raffle ended; the band began. The raffle ended, and the band began.

For PROVE IT, accept explanations that identify two complete thoughts and explain whether a semicolon or a comma alone joins them. For example, item 2 uses a semicolon correctly, while item 4 needs revision because a comma alone joins its two complete thoughts.