Garden Notes Matter

Notice how careful conventions make a model text clear.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.2 "Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every comma, circle each set of quotation marks, and box capital letters used for names, dates, and spoken sentences to see how clear writing is built.

A Community Garden Visit

1. On Saturday morning, Maya visited the community garden with her uncle, Mr. Chen. At the gate, she read a sign: "Please close the gate, protect the seedlings, and carry out trash." Maya noticed bees moving from flower to flower. "They are busy helpers," Mr. Chen said. Nearby, a robin pulled a worm from the damp soil.

2. Later, Maya filled a watering can, a small bucket, and a tray with tools. Before lunch, she and Mr. Chen planted basil seeds in neat rows. He explained, "Basil needs sun, water, and time to grow." Maya wrote the date, April 12, in her notebook. Then she checked the seed packet twice, because careful gardeners follow directions.

3. By afternoon, the garden looked tidy and welcoming. Maya labeled the rows "basil," "beans," and "marigolds" so visitors could identify each plant. After they finished, Mr. Chen asked, "What will you remember?" Maya replied, "I will water the seeds gently, watch for sprouts, and close the gate." Her notes were clear, correct, and ready for the next visit.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the message on the gate sign exactly. Include its capital letter and punctuation.

2. Rewrite this list from paragraph 2 with the needed commas: a watering can a small bucket and a tray.

3. The sign's word has been misspelled below. Write it correctly: seedlngs

4. Rewrite Mr. Chen's question from paragraph 3 with correct capitalization and dialogue punctuation.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about getting ready for an outdoor activity. Include a proper noun, an introductory word or phrase followed by a comma, a series of three items with commas, and one line of dialogue in quotation marks.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Notes Matter

GRADE 5 · L.5.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every comma, circle each set of quotation marks, and box capital letters used for names, dates, and spoken sentences to see how clear writing is built. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the message on the gate sign exactly. Include its capital letter and punctuation.	**Please close the gate, protect the seedlings, and carry out trash.**
2	Rewrite this list from paragraph 2 with the needed commas: a watering can a small bucket and a tray.	**a watering can, a small bucket, and a tray**
3	The sign's word has been misspelled below. Write it correctly: seedlngs	**seedlings**
4	Rewrite Mr. Chen's question from paragraph 3 with correct capitalization and dialogue punctuation.	**Mr. Chen asked, “What will you remember?”**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On Friday, I packed a map, a flashlight, and a water bottle for a walk at Cedar Grove Park. There, my sister said, “Stay on the trail.”

For Part 3, accept any two original sentences that include all requested conventions. Check that commas separate each item in the series and that dialogue has quotation marks and correct end punctuation.