

Garden Argument Links

Trace the phrases that connect an opinion to its support.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1c "Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each opinion statement. Circle the words or phrases that connect an opinion or reason to another idea, so you can see how the writer builds support.

A Rain Garden for School

- ① Our school should add a small rain garden near the playground. A rain garden is a planted area that collects rainwater from roofs or paths. It would make the schoolyard more useful and colorful. For instance, native flowers could attract butterflies and bees. Students could watch these animals from a safe distance and record what they see.
- ② Rain gardens can also help after a storm. Their plants and soil slow down water that runs off hard surfaces. In addition, the garden can hold some water while it soaks into the ground. This may reduce puddles near the playground. Our school should choose native plants in order to give local insects food and shelter.
- ③ Building the garden would take planning, but students can help. First, classes could sketch designs and choose a sunny spot that does not block games. For example, families might donate seeds or help spread mulch. Therefore, I believe a rain garden is a smart project because it supports learning, living things, and a cleaner schoolyard.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which linking phrase introduces the flower example in paragraph 1, and which reason does the example support?

2 How does "In addition" connect the ideas in paragraph 2?

3 What goal is linked to choosing native plants by the phrase "in order to"?

4 In paragraph 3, what opinion is introduced by "Therefore," and what reasons follow "because"?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly 3 sentences proposing one improvement for your classroom. State your opinion and give at least two reasons, using at least two linking words or phrases, such as "for instance," "in addition," or "therefore."

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each opinion statement. Circle the words or phrases that connect an opinion or reason to another idea, so you can see how the writer builds support. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which linking phrase introduces the flower example in paragraph 1, and which reason does the example support?	"For instance" introduces the example. It supports the reason that a rain garden would make the schoolyard more useful and colorful.
2	How does "In addition" connect the ideas in paragraph 2?	It adds a second benefit. The plants and soil slow runoff, and the garden can also hold water while it soaks into the ground.
3	What goal is linked to choosing native plants by the phrase "in order to"?	The goal is to give local insects food and shelter.
4	In paragraph 3, what opinion is introduced by "Therefore," and what reasons follow "because"?	The opinion is that a rain garden is a smart project. The reasons are that it supports learning, living things, and a cleaner schoolyard.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our classroom should have a quiet reading corner. For instance, pillows and a small shelf would give students a calm place to read, and in addition, labeled bins would help us return books neatly. Therefore, the reading corner would help us choose books and care for them.

Accept reasonable classroom improvements with a clear opinion, at least two supporting reasons, and at least two correctly used linking words or phrases. The linking language should clearly connect an example, added reason, goal, or conclusion to another idea.