Revision Trail

Follow a writer's choices from plan to polished proposal.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.5 "With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each sentence or phrase that tells how Maya changed her writing after drafting. In the margin, label each change I for ideas or organization, E for evidence, or C for conventions.

Maya's Bike Rack Proposal

1. Maya wanted to write a short article asking the principal to add bike racks near the school entrance. Before drafting, she listed what readers would need: the problem, evidence, a solution, and a respectful request. She spoke with three classmates who rode bikes and counted the crowded spots where they locked them. Her plan helped her choose a clear order. First, she would describe the problem, then she would use her evidence, and finally she would explain how racks could help.

2. Her first draft said, "Kids leave bikes everywhere. We need racks." During peer review, Jordan said the idea was important but needed details. Maya replaced the vague word everywhere with a fact: "On Tuesday, I saw twelve bikes locked to fences and signposts." She also added a source for her estimate of rack cost. Her teacher asked whether the opening sentence would make the principal want to keep reading. Maya moved the bike-count detail closer to the beginning.

3. Next, Maya read the revised article aloud slowly. She noticed a run-on sentence: "Bike racks protect bicycles they also keep walkways clear." She corrected it to, "Bike racks protect bicycles, and they keep walkways clear." She changed "their" to "there" in a sentence about a bike left near the entrance. Finally, she wrote a stronger ending that asked the principal to consider six racks. Her revision improved the article's organization, details, and conventions for readers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What four parts did Maya list before drafting, and how did the list shape her article's order?

2. What feedback did Jordan give Maya, and what revision did Maya make because of it?

3. What change did Maya make after her teacher questioned the opening, and what purpose did it serve?

4. Name both convention corrections Maya made while editing.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one school improvement, and plan a problem, one specific detail, a solution, and a respectful request. Write a four-sentence mini-proposal, then ask a partner or adult for feedback and write one revision note that names a change you made, including one convention correction.

ANSWER KEY

Revision Trail

GRADE 6 · W.6.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each sentence or phrase that tells how Maya changed her writing after drafting. In the margin, label each change I for ideas or organization, E for evidence, or C for conventions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What four parts did Maya list before drafting, and how did the list shape her article's order?	**She listed the problem, evidence, a solution, and a respectful request. She planned to explain the problem first, use evidence next, and explain how racks could help last.**
2	What feedback did Jordan give Maya, and what revision did Maya make because of it?	**Jordan said the idea needed details. Maya replaced "everywhere" with the specific fact that she saw twelve bikes locked to fences and signposts.**
3	What change did Maya make after her teacher questioned the opening, and what purpose did it serve?	**She moved the bike-count detail closer to the beginning so the opening would make the principal want to keep reading.**
4	Name both convention corrections Maya made while editing.	**She corrected a run-on sentence by using a comma and "and," and she changed the incorrect word "their" to "there."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Students need a water bottle filling station near the gym. At busy times, the nearby fountain has a long line. A filling station could help students refill bottles quickly and use fewer disposable bottles. The school should consider installing one before basketball season. Revision note: After my partner said the problem needed a detail, I added the line about the long line and changed "students waits" to "students wait."

Accept equivalent descriptions of Maya's planning, revision, and editing choices when they match the passage. In the open response, accept varied school-improvement topics if the proposal has four sentences and the revision note identifies feedback, a meaningful change, and a convention correction.