Can's Next Journey

Use text clues to follow and explain a process.

4.P.EICC.2.c "Explain and learn concepts and processes by interpreting and constructing texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show when a step happens. Number the main actions in the recycling process so you can explain how one action leads to the next.

From Can to Can

1. After you place an empty aluminum can in a recycling bin, its trip is not over. A truck carries the can and other recyclables to a sorting center. Workers and machines separate materials into groups. A magnet pulls out steel cans, but aluminum is not magnetic. Then a machine can help sort aluminum from plastic and paper.

2. Next, the aluminum cans are crushed into flat pieces and packed into large bundles. The bundles travel to a plant, where the metal is shredded into small bits. Heat melts the bits into liquid aluminum. At this stage, workers remove some unwanted material. The clean liquid metal is poured into molds and cooled into large blocks called ingots.

3. Finally, factories melt the ingots and roll the aluminum into thin sheets. The sheets can be shaped into new cans, foil, or other products. Recycling aluminum saves energy because making new aluminum from mined ore uses much more energy. When people recycle cans, they help keep useful metal in use instead of sending it to a landfill.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the order of the paragraphs help you understand the recycling process?

2. What job does the magnet do, and why does it not pull out aluminum cans?

3. How do the actions in paragraph 2 prepare the aluminum for the actions in paragraph 3?

4. What reason does the text give for recycling aluminum cans?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 3-4 sentence mini-process that explains how to do a useful classroom task. Include at least three actions in order, at least two order words, and one sentence that explains why a step matters.

ANSWER KEY

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that show when a step happens. Number the main actions in the recycling process so you can explain how one action leads to the next. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the order of the paragraphs help you understand the recycling process?	**The paragraphs show the stages in order: sorting the can, turning it into ingots, and making new products.**
2	What job does the magnet do, and why does it not pull out aluminum cans?	**The magnet pulls out steel cans. It does not pull out aluminum because aluminum is not magnetic.**
3	How do the actions in paragraph 2 prepare the aluminum for the actions in paragraph 3?	**Paragraph 2 melts and cools the aluminum into ingots. In paragraph 3, factories melt and roll the ingots into sheets.**
4	What reason does the text give for recycling aluminum cans?	**Recycling aluminum saves energy and keeps useful metal out of landfills.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, sort the classroom markers by color and place each group in a cup. Next, test each marker on scrap paper, because dry markers should not be mixed with ready-to-use ones. Finally, label the cups so classmates can quickly return the markers after using them.

Accept answers that use passage details to explain how steps connect, not just list isolated facts. For the writing task, accept any clear 3-4 sentence process with ordered actions, two order words, and a reason for one step.