Monarch Draft Detectives

Find and correct conventions in an informational draft.

4.P.EICC.4.h "Edit the text, ensuring it adheres to the conventions of written language. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB This draft has six convention errors. Circle each error and number the circles 1 through 6 so you can prepare to edit the draft.

The Monarch Journey

(1) Every fall, monarch butterflies travel from canada to mountain forests in central Mexico. Some monarchs fly more than 2,000 miles. The insects use sunlight and Earths magnetic field to help them travel. They cannot make the whole trip in one day, so they rest on trees and drink nectar along the way during warm afternoons.

(2) In mexico, millions of butterflies cover the branches like orange leaves. The forests give the butterflies shelter from cold rain and wind but the trees need protection too. If people cut down too many trees, the butterflys may lose their winter home. Scientists and local communities work together to care for these special forests each year.

(3) You can help monarchs in your own neighborhood. Plant native flowers, such as milkweed and asters, in a sunny spot. Milkweed is important because monarch caterpillars eat only its leaves. Do not pick caterpillars or move them from plant to plant. Watching quietly lets you see a caterpillar form a chrysalis, then a butterfly emerges about two weeks later.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two place names need capital letters? Write both corrected words.

2. Write the corrected phrase from paragraph 1 that needs an apostrophe.

3. Rewrite this sentence with the needed comma: The forests give the butterflies shelter from cold rain and wind but the trees need protection too.

4. Rewrite the last sentence as two complete sentences.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences for a nature-care poster about an animal or plant near you. Reread and edit for capital letters, end punctuation, and at least one comma or apostrophe.

ANSWER KEY

Monarch Draft Detectives

GRADE 4 · 4.P.EICC.4.h

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

This draft has six convention errors. Circle each error and number the circles 1 through 6 so you can prepare to edit the draft. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two place names need capital letters? Write both corrected words.	**Canada; Mexico**
2	Write the corrected phrase from paragraph 1 that needs an apostrophe.	**Earth's magnetic field**
3	Rewrite this sentence with the needed comma: The forests give the butterflies shelter from cold rain and wind but the trees need protection too.	**The forests give the butterflies shelter from cold rain and wind, but the trees need protection too.**
4	Rewrite the last sentence as two complete sentences.	**Watching quietly lets you see a caterpillar form a chrysalis. Then a butterfly emerges about two weeks later.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At our park, we can leave fallen leaves for insects. A bird's nest needs shelter, so we should not disturb it.

Accept the six edits: Canada, Earth's, Mexico, a comma before but, butterflies, and a period after chrysalis with Then capitalized. For the open task, accept two related sentences that use correct capitals and end punctuation plus at least one correctly used comma or apostrophe.