Words That Move

Notice how sentence choices guide a specific audience toward action.

6.P.AC.2.c "Make decisions about sentence structure and syntax in order to accommodate and influence the audience and achieve a specific purpose. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline sentences that give students an action or reassure them that they can help. Circle each question, and number the three actions in the sentence that lists what volunteers can do.

Garden Help Needed

(1) Sixth graders, our school garden needs your help this Friday. Wind scattered mulch across the paths, and the tomato beds need new stakes before the plants grow taller. Meet by the garden gate at 3:15 with closed-toe shoes and a water bottle. You do not need gardening experience. You only need willing hands. In one hour, we can clear paths, tie plants, and make the space ready for visiting families. This work also keeps small visitors from tripping.

(2) Why should you come? The garden is more than a row of plants. Science classes measure insects there, the cafeteria uses some herbs, and younger students read on the shaded bench. When the paths are blocked, those activities become harder. Your work will help many people use the garden safely. Can you picture a second grader spotting a butterfly because you cleared the way? That small task matters. It can begin with you on Friday.

(3) Sign up on the sheet outside Room 214 by Thursday afternoon. If you can stay for only thirty minutes, write that beside your name, since every bit of help is useful. First, volunteers will receive gloves and a quick safety check. Then we will work in small teams near an adult. Come make the garden welcoming. Bring your energy, bring a friend, and bring the care our shared space deserves. It is waiting for us.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two short sentences in paragraph 1 reassure students that they can help?

2. How do the questions in paragraph 2 try to influence sixth-grade readers?

3. Copy the sentence that uses a list of three actions to show what volunteers can accomplish.

4. Why does paragraph 3 include the sentence beginning with "If you can stay for only thirty minutes"?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence announcement that encourages sixth graders to join a school Welcome Crew. Include one question, one short sentence that reassures students, and one sentence with a list of three actions they can do.

ANSWER KEY

Words That Move

GRADE 6 · 6.P.AC.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline sentences that give students an action or reassure them that they can help. Circle each question, and number the three actions in the sentence that lists what volunteers can do. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two short sentences in paragraph 1 reassure students that they can help?	**"You do not need gardening experience." and "You only need willing hands."**
2	How do the questions in paragraph 2 try to influence sixth-grade readers?	**They invite students to think about why the garden matters and imagine how their work could help a younger student.**
3	Copy the sentence that uses a list of three actions to show what volunteers can accomplish.	**"In one hour, we can clear paths, tie plants, and make the space ready for visiting families."**
4	Why does paragraph 3 include the sentence beginning with "If you can stay for only thirty minutes"?	**It accommodates students with limited time and shows that even a short amount of help is useful.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Do you want to help our school welcome new students? You do not need to be an expert. Join the Welcome Crew on Tuesday to make signs, guide families, and answer questions.

Accept responses that identify how sentence length, questions, lists, and conditional wording fit the student audience and encourage participation. For Part 3, accept varied school activities if the response has exactly three sentences and includes all required structures.