Revision Detective

Trace how feedback turns a draft into clearer writing.

6.P.EICC.4.g "Make changes to the text based on self-evaluation or external feedback, revising the organization, ideas, information, word choices, and craft techniques in order to increase the text's effectiveness. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three places where Maya changes her article after feedback or self-evaluation. In the margin, label each change O for organization, I for information or ideas, W for word choice, or C for craft.

Maya Revises a Wetland Article

1. When Maya drafted a short article about a nearby wetland, she began with, "Wetlands are places with water." Her teacher wrote, "Start with a detail that helps readers picture the place." Maya also noticed that her first paragraph listed animals before explaining what a wetland is. She highlighted the opening and wrote a new plan: describe the habitat, explain its value, then name animals that depend on it. This plan would guide the order of her revision.

2. In the next draft, Maya opened with, "At sunrise, tall grasses along the pond hold silver drops of water." Then she added, "A wetland is land that stays wet for part or all of the year." This sentence gave readers needed information before the animal examples. She replaced the broad word nice in "Wetlands are nice for birds" with "Wetlands provide nesting, food, and shelter for many birds." She checked a field guide and named great blue herons and red-winged blackbirds, two birds often found in North American wetlands.

3. Maya ended her article by returning to the sunrise scene: "When wetlands are protected, the pond can keep supporting life from dawn to dusk." She removed a repeated sentence about water and placed her strongest facts near the beginning. During self-evaluation, she asked whether each paragraph had one clear job. A classmate suggested adding a transition between the definition and the bird examples. Maya inserted "Because wetlands offer these conditions, many animals can live there." Her final article moved smoothly and gave readers a clearer picture.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What feedback caused Maya to revise her opening sentence?

2. How did Maya change the order of her article, and why was that change helpful?

3. Which broad sentence did Maya replace, and what more precise sentence did she use instead?

4. What transition did Maya add after her classmate's suggestion, and where did she place it?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A reader says, “Start with a sensory detail, explain the place before giving an example, and connect ideas with a transition.” Write a revised four-sentence paragraph about a place at school that uses this feedback. Underline one word or phrase you chose to make your writing more effective, then write one sentence explaining that choice.

ANSWER KEY # Revision Detective

GRADE 6 · 6.P.EICC.4.g

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three places where Maya changes her article after feedback or self-evaluation. In the margin, label each change O for organization, I for information or ideas, W for word choice, or C for craft. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What feedback caused Maya to revise her opening sentence?	**Her teacher said to start with a detail that helps readers picture the place.**
2	How did Maya change the order of her article, and why was that change helpful?	**She planned to describe the habitat and explain its value before naming animals, so readers would understand the wetland before reading the examples.**
3	Which broad sentence did Maya replace, and what more precise sentence did she use instead?	**She replaced "Wetlands are nice for birds" with "Wetlands provide nesting, food, and shelter for many birds."**
4	What transition did Maya add after her classmate's suggestion, and where did she place it?	**She added "Because wetlands offer these conditions, many animals can live there" between the definition of a wetland and the bird examples.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

__Sunlight falls across the quiet tables__ in our school library. The library is a place where students can read, research, and borrow books. For example, the mystery shelf holds books with clues and surprising endings. Because the shelves are clearly labeled, students can find a book without wasting time. I underlined the opening phrase because it helps readers picture the library right away.

For the open response, accept any four-sentence revision that follows the feedback, includes a marked effective word or phrase, and gives a reasonable explanation.