Creek Care Connections

Notice how transitions link actions and ideas in a model informational text.

7.T.SS.1.c "Use varied transition words and phrases to connect ideas, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of text. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every transition word or phrase, then draw an arrow beside one transition that connects a paragraph to the paragraph before it.

Restoring Mill Creek

1 On a windy spring morning, volunteers gathered beside Mill Creek to rebuild a damaged trail. First, they carried gravel to the muddy sections and spread it with rakes. Next, a team set flat stones along the creek bank, where recent floods had washed away soil. Meanwhile, other volunteers planted willow cuttings because their roots can help hold the bank in place. By noon, the group had cleared the path, and visitors could again reach the water safely.

2 However, rebuilding the trail was only the first step in protecting Mill Creek. The volunteers also placed signs asking walkers to stay on the path. In addition, they marked a viewing area so people could watch herons without disturbing nesting places. These changes guide visitors, but they do not block access to the creek. Instead, the plan helps people enjoy the site while reducing harm to plants and animals. As a result, the restored bank has a better chance to recover after future storms.

3 Finally, the project depends on more than one day of work. Each month, volunteers check the trail after heavy rain and replace loose gravel. They also record which plants survive near the bank. For example, a healthy patch of willows can show that the soil is becoming more stable. If erosion appears again, the group can add more plants or move water away from the trail. In this way, careful observation connects the first repair to long-term care for the creek.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two transition words in paragraph 1 show the order of the first two jobs?

2. How does the word However at the start of paragraph 2 connect paragraph 2 to paragraph 1?

3. Which transition phrase introduces the viewing area as another protective step in paragraph 2?

4. What two ideas does the phrase In this way connect in paragraph 3?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence mini-paragraph about improving one place at school. Use and underline one transition for sequence, one for adding information, and one for a result.

ANSWER KEY

Creek Care Connections

GRADE 7 · 7.T.SS.1.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every transition word or phrase, then draw an arrow beside one transition that connects a paragraph to the paragraph before it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two transition words in paragraph 1 show the order of the first two jobs?	**First and Next.**
2	How does the word However at the start of paragraph 2 connect paragraph 2 to paragraph 1?	**It contrasts the completed trail repair with the idea that more protection is still needed.**
3	Which transition phrase introduces the viewing area as another protective step in paragraph 2?	**In addition.**
4	What two ideas does the phrase In this way connect in paragraph 3?	**It connects careful observation and repeated maintenance with long-term care for the creek.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, our class could label the recycling bins clearly. In addition, student leaders could explain what belongs in each bin. As a result, less trash would be mixed with recyclable materials.

Accept correctly marked transition words or phrases that connect time, addition, contrast, cause and effect, examples, or conditions. For Part 3, accept any logical three-sentence response with underlined transitions for sequence, addition, and result.