Link the Ledges

See how transitions connect ideas across a cohesive model text.

8.T.SS.1.c "Use varied words, phrases, and clauses to transition between ideas and to aid overall cohesion. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every transition word, phrase, or clause that links ideas. Beside each underline, write a brief label, such as sequence, contrast, cause/result, addition, or explanation, to show how it builds cohesion.

A Rooftop Falcon Project

1. On a spring morning, a volunteer scans the ledges of a downtown library for signs of peregrine falcons. These swift birds often nest on tall buildings because the ledges resemble cliff faces. However, city life brings hazards, including glass windows and busy streets. To protect the birds, the volunteer records each sighting and shares the information with a local wildlife group. As a result, the group can watch for nesting pairs and plan safe observation areas.

2. At first, the wildlife group studies maps and building plans to locate a safe nesting spot. Before choosing a site, members ask the building owner for permission and check whether workers use the roof. Next, they attach a shallow wooden platform near a sheltered ledge. After the platform is secured, a camera sends images to a computer inside the library. Finally, volunteers review the images each week, so they can notice eggs, chicks, or possible problems.

3. Some residents worry that a roof camera will disturb the falcons. In fact, the camera is placed away from the nest, and it allows biologists to observe the birds without climbing onto the roof. Meanwhile, library visitors can view selected images on a screen near the entrance. The display teaches people why nesting space matters. Therefore, the project protects the falcons while connecting the community to nearby wildlife. In this way, one small platform supports both science and public learning.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which transition in paragraph 1 signals a contrast? What two ideas does it connect?

2. What five transitions organize the main installation steps in paragraph 2? List them in order.

3. What ideas does the phrase "As a result" connect in paragraph 1?

4. How do "In fact" and "Therefore" guide the reader in paragraph 3?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences explaining how your school could reduce cafeteria waste. Use at least three transitions: one sequence transition, one contrast transition, and one result transition. At least one transition must be a phrase or clause, not a single word.

ANSWER KEY

Link the Ledges

GRADE 8 · 8.T.SS.1.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every transition word, phrase, or clause that links ideas. Beside each underline, write a brief label, such as sequence, contrast, cause/result, addition, or explanation, to show how it builds cohesion. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which transition in paragraph 1 signals a contrast? What two ideas does it connect?	**However. It contrasts the idea that tall buildings can resemble cliff nesting sites with the hazards of city life.**
2	What five transitions organize the main installation steps in paragraph 2? List them in order.	**At first; Before choosing a site; Next; After the platform is secured; Finally.**
3	What ideas does the phrase "As a result" connect in paragraph 1?	**It connects the volunteer's recording and sharing of sightings to the wildlife group's ability to monitor nesting pairs and plan safe observation areas.**
4	How do "In fact" and "Therefore" guide the reader in paragraph 3?	**In fact counters the worry about disturbing the falcons by giving evidence about the camera. Therefore signals the conclusion that the project protects falcons and connects the community to wildlife.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, students could place food scraps in a compost bin after lunch. Although sorting takes an extra minute, clear signs would help students choose the correct bin. As a result, the school could send less waste to a landfill and create compost for its garden.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the relationships between ideas when they match the passage. For the writing task, accept varied transitions if the response has exactly three sentences and includes sequence, contrast, and result connections.