

Writing Across Time

Use quick notes and thoughtful revision for different history audiences.

L6-8WHST10 "Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the phrases that show how Maya changed her writing for a time limit, purpose, or audience.

Maya's History Writing

- ① On Monday, Maya examined a photograph of workers building the transcontinental railroad. In ten minutes, she wrote a notebook entry for her history teacher. Her entry named details she noticed: steep mountains, tools, and crowded work camps. She also wrote one question about whose voices were missing from the photograph. This quick writing did not need polished sentences. Its purpose was to capture observations and questions before Maya began research. Maya dated the entry so she could return to it later.
- ② Over the next three days, Maya read a textbook section and two library sources. She checked dates and compared each source with her notebook entry. Then she drafted a paragraph for a museum display aimed at fourth-grade visitors. In her first draft, she used a long sentence and an unfamiliar word, laborers. After rereading, she divided the sentence, explained that laborers are workers, and added a source credit. Her revision helped younger readers understand her point and see where information came from.
- ③ On Friday, Maya wrote a short caption for the display case. She chose one fact from her paragraph and wrote it in two clear sentences. The caption was for visitors who might read while standing nearby. It did not include every research detail, because its purpose was different from the paragraph's purpose. Maya read the caption aloud to a classmate, changed one confusing phrase, and checked that the source credit matched her earlier draft. Writing quickly, revising over several days, and adjusting for readers helped Maya complete each history task.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What did Maya write in ten minutes, and what was its purpose?

2 Name two actions Maya took over three days to improve her museum paragraph.

3 Who was Maya's museum paragraph written for, and what change helped that audience?

4 Why did Maya leave out some research details from her caption?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a social studies topic you have learned about. In one sitting, write a three-sentence planning note for your teacher that includes one fact, one question, and the audience for a later piece of writing. Then list two revision steps you would take over the next two days to turn the note into a museum caption for fourth-grade visitors.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the phrases that show how Maya changed her writing for a time limit, purpose, or audience. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did Maya write in ten minutes, and what was its purpose?	She wrote a notebook entry. Its purpose was to capture observations and questions before she began research.
2	Name two actions Maya took over three days to improve her museum paragraph.	She checked dates and compared sources with her notebook entry. She also divided a long sentence, explained an unfamiliar word, and added a source credit.
3	Who was Maya's museum paragraph written for, and what change helped that audience?	It was written for fourth-grade visitors. Maya explained that laborers are workers and divided a long sentence.
4	Why did Maya leave out some research details from her caption?	The caption had a different purpose from the paragraph. It was meant for visitors reading while standing nearby.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Erie Canal opened in 1825 and linked the Hudson River to Lake Erie. I wonder how canal workers dug the route without modern machines. My later caption will be for fourth-grade museum visitors. 1. Check the date and places in a reliable source. 2. Replace linked with connected and shorten the explanation.

Accept any accurate social studies fact, a related question, and a clearly stated audience. Revision steps should improve accuracy, clarity, length, word choice, or suitability for fourth-grade museum visitors.