Bridge the Ideas

Notice how transitions guide a reader through a test.

C.4.1.d "Use grade-appropriate transitions to connect sentences and paragraphs."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle words and phrases that connect Mira's ideas from one sentence or paragraph to the next. Look for connections that show time, a problem, or a result.

Mira's Paper Bridge

1. First, Mira laid a flat sheet of paper across two stacks of books. She wanted to build a bridge that could hold a small toy car. When she set the car in the middle, the paper sagged and the car rolled off. Because the bridge had no folds, Mira wondered if its flat shape was the problem. She decided to change only the paper's shape for her next test.

2. Next, Mira folded a fresh sheet back and forth like a fan. She rested it across the same two book stacks and placed the same car in the middle. This time, the paper held the car up. However, one end slipped when Mira gave the desk a tiny bump. To keep the bridge steady, she tucked each end of the folded paper under the top book on each stack.

3. After that, Mira tested the bridge again. The car stayed in place, even when she gently tapped the desk. As a result, she could see that folds helped the paper hold the car, while the tucked ends stopped it from sliding. Finally, she showed her classmates both bridges, the flat one and the folded one. They compared the tests and asked which change had made the biggest difference.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What idea in paragraph 1 does “Next” connect to Mira’s folding in paragraph 2?

2. What change does “However” signal in paragraph 2?

3. What test result leads to Mira’s idea after “As a result” in paragraph 3?

4. How does “Finally” help connect the last event to Mira’s tests?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a problem you solved while making or playing with something other than a paper bridge. Write five sentences that show your first try, a problem, a change, and the result. Use at least three different transitions to connect your sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Bridge the Ideas

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle words and phrases that connect Mira's ideas from one sentence or paragraph to the next. Look for connections that show time, a problem, or a result. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What idea in paragraph 1 does "Next" connect to Mira's folding in paragraph 2?	**Mira decided to change the paper's shape for her next test.**
2	What change does "However" signal in paragraph 2?	**The folded paper held the car up, but one end slipped when Mira bumped the desk.**
3	What test result leads to Mira's idea after "As a result" in paragraph 3?	**The car stayed in place when Mira gently tapped the desk.**
4	How does "Finally" help connect the last event to Mira's tests?	**It shows that after testing the bridges, Mira showed both of them to her classmates.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, I made a paper airplane with wide wings. When I threw it, it turned sharply and landed by my feet. So, I folded one wing to match the other. On my next try, the plane flew straight across the room. Finally, I showed my sister how I fixed the wings.

For the marking job, accept transitions such as "First," "When," "Because," "Next," "This time," "However," "To keep," "After that," "As a result," and "Finally." For Your Turn, look for five connected sentences with at least three different transitions and a clear problem, change, and result.