

Gardens Above

Notice how a model text introduces one topic and groups related ideas.

4W2.a "Introduce a topic clearly and organize related information in paragraphs and sections."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that introduces the main topic. Circle each section heading, then number the three paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to show the order of the information.

Rooftop Gardens

- ① **Rooftop Gardens** Rooftop gardens turn unused building roofs into places where plants grow. In busy cities, roofs often receive plenty of sunlight but have no trees or grass. A garden can hold flowers, vegetables, and small shrubs in deep containers. These gardens give people a nearby place to see living plants while using space that might otherwise stay empty.
- ② **Benefits for the Building** Plants and soil can soak up some rainwater during a storm. This can slow the water that flows into street drains. Plant leaves also shade the roof surface from strong sun. Because the roof stays cooler, a building may need less energy for air conditioning in warm weather. A garden can also create a small habitat for insects and birds.
- ③ **Care and Planning** A rooftop garden needs a strong roof, safe railings, and regular care. Gardeners choose lightweight soil and containers that let extra water drain away. They water plants when the soil is dry and remove weeds before they spread. By planning for safety, water, and plant care, people can help a rooftop garden grow well through the season.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the main topic of the passage? Write one detail from the first paragraph that helps introduce it.

2 How does the first paragraph introduce the topic before the later paragraphs give more information?

3 What information is grouped under the heading "Benefits for the Building"? Give two related details.

4 Why is "Care and Planning" a useful heading for the last paragraph? Use details from that paragraph in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a familiar place or activity. Write a title and three short paragraphs about it. In paragraph 1, clearly introduce the topic. Begin paragraphs 2 and 3 with section headings, and give related details under each heading.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that introduces the main topic. Circle each section heading, then number the three paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to show the order of the information. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main topic of the passage? Write one detail from the first paragraph that helps introduce it.	The main topic is rooftop gardens. One introducing detail is that they turn unused building roofs into places where plants grow.
2	How does the first paragraph introduce the topic before the later paragraphs give more information?	It explains what rooftop gardens are, where they can be found, and what they can contain.
3	What information is grouped under the heading "Benefits for the Building"? Give two related details.	It explains that plants and soil can soak up rainwater and that plant leaves shade the roof, which may lower air-conditioning energy use.
4	Why is "Care and Planning" a useful heading for the last paragraph? Use details from that paragraph in your answer.	The paragraph is about what a rooftop garden needs to grow well, including a strong roof, safe railings, drainage, watering, and weed removal.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The School Library The school library is a place where students can read, learn, and borrow books. It has stories and facts for many interests. Finding Books Books are arranged by type and subject. Labels help students find a book about animals, sports, or space. Using the Library Students return books by their due dates. They also use quiet voices so everyone can read.

Accept equivalent answers that identify rooftop gardens as the topic and accurately connect details to the correct section. For the writing task, look for a clear introduction, three paragraphs, two useful section headings, and details that match each heading.