

Sentence Garden Crew

See how writers shape sentences for clarity and flow.

5L3.a "Expand, combine, and reduce sentences for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first quoted sentence in paragraphs 2 and 3, then circle the quoted revision that follows each one. Number the two sentence pairs 1 and 2 so you can compare the writer's choices.

Cleaning the Garden Path

- ① On Monday, the garden club checked the school garden after a windy weekend. Loose leaves covered the path. Maya and Luis gathered the leaves and filled one compost bin. Their careful work cleared the walkway for younger students. By noon, the path was safe, tidy, and easy to use. The gardeners felt proud of the change.
- ② At first, Maya wrote, "We worked." The sentence was true, but it did not show what happened. She expanded it into a clearer sentence: "Maya and Luis gathered loose leaves and filled a compost bin." The added details help readers picture the job. The longer sentence still stays focused on the main actions during their morning work.
- ③ Later, Luis wrote, "The garden path was covered with leaves, and the path could not be used by students walking to class." He reduced the repeated words: "Leaves covered the path, so students could not use it." The revised sentence says the same main idea with fewer words. It moves quickly and avoids repeating path.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two actions does Maya's revised sentence combine?

2 What details did Maya add to make "We worked" clearer? Name two.

3 In Luis's revision, what repeated word does the pronoun "it" replace?

4 How does the word "so" help the shorter sentence show the meaning clearly?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write four sentences about a real or imagined outdoor job. Write two short draft sentences, combine and expand them into one detailed sentence, then write a shorter version that removes repeated words but keeps the meaning.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the first quoted sentence in paragraphs 2 and 3, then circle the quoted revision that follows each one. Number the two sentence pairs 1 and 2 so you can compare the writer's choices. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two actions does Maya's revised sentence combine?	Maya and Luis gathered loose leaves and filled a compost bin.
2	What details did Maya add to make "We worked" clearer? Name two.	She added who did the work, Maya and Luis, and what they did, gathering loose leaves and filling a compost bin.
3	In Luis's revision, what repeated word does the pronoun "it" replace?	It replaces the second use of "the path."
4	How does the word "so" help the shorter sentence show the meaning clearly?	It shows that leaves covering the path caused students to be unable to use it.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jada planted seeds. Jada watered the seeds. Jada planted tomato seeds and watered the seeds in the sunny garden. Jada planted tomato seeds and watered them in the sunny garden.

Accept answers that accurately identify the details, repeated word, and cause-and-result connection in the passage. For Part 3, accept varied topics if the student includes two short drafts, a combined expanded sentence, and a reduced revision that keeps the meaning.