

Garden Sentence Moves

Notice how sentence patterns shape a clear, lively model text.

6L3.a "Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each sentence that begins with a time or order word or phrase. Circle the question sentence and number the two shortest sentences in paragraph 2 to notice how different patterns affect the writing.

Seeds at School

- ① On a warm April morning, Maya unlocked the gate to the school garden. Dew clung to the kale leaves, and earthworms curled beneath the mulch. She carried a notebook, a ruler, and a packet of bean seeds. First, she measured a bare bed near the fence. Then she pressed each seed into the soil. Would the beans climb the trellis before the last day of school? Maya hoped so, because bean plants can grow quickly when they receive sun, water, and support.
- ② By lunchtime, the garden looked ordinary to students passing the windows. Yet below the surface, changes had begun. Water soaked into the loose soil. Tiny roots would soon push outward, searching for moisture. In the compost bin, bacteria and fungi broke down old leaves and lunch scraps. This process returned nutrients to the soil. No machines rumbled. No chemicals were needed. Instead, the garden used sunlight, water, living things, and patient care to become a small outdoor classroom.
- ③ After several weeks, green shoots appeared beside the fence. The beans had not reached the trellis yet, but their stems were twisting toward it. Maya recorded the height of three plants in her notebook. She also noticed ladybugs on the leaves. Helpful hunters, the ladybugs ate aphids that might harm the beans. At dismissal, Maya paused at the gate. Her careful work had started with one small seed. Now the garden was changing, day by day.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** Which two sentence beginnings in paragraph 1 show the order of Maya's actions? How do these beginnings help the reader?

- 2** Copy the question sentence from paragraph 1. How does this pattern create reader interest?

- 3** In paragraph 3, which sentence begins with a descriptive phrase instead of naming the subject first? What does the phrase emphasize?

- 4** Why might the writer use the two short sentences, "No machines rumbled. No chemicals were needed," instead of joining them into one longer sentence?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a five-sentence scene about caring for a living thing. Include one sentence that begins with a time or place phrase, one that begins with an order word, one question sentence, and one short sentence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each sentence that begins with a time or order word or phrase. Circle the question sentence and number the two shortest sentences in paragraph 2 to notice how different patterns affect the writing. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two sentence beginnings in paragraph 1 show the order of Maya's actions? How do these beginnings help the reader?	"First" and "Then." They show the order of Maya's actions clearly.
2	Copy the question sentence from paragraph 1. How does this pattern create reader interest?	"Would the beans climb the trellis before the last day of school?" It makes the reader wonder what will happen to the beans.
3	In paragraph 3, which sentence begins with a descriptive phrase instead of naming the subject first? What does the phrase emphasize?	"Helpful hunters, the ladybugs ate aphids that might harm the beans." The phrase emphasizes that ladybugs help protect the bean plants.
4	Why might the writer use the two short sentences, "No machines rumbled. No chemicals were needed," instead of joining them into one longer sentence?	The two short sentences create a quick, strong emphasis that the garden needs neither machines nor chemicals.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At sunrise, I filled the bird feeder beside our porch. First, I poured seeds into the tray. A sparrow landed on the rail. Would more birds come? Soon, the quiet yard filled with fluttering wings.

Accept reasonable explanations that connect each pattern to clarity, emphasis, pace, or reader interest. For the writing task, check for five sentences and all four requested sentence patterns.