Choices on the Page

Use voice and parallel structure to guide a reader's attention.

10.5.W.1 "Students will use or revise for active/passive voice and parallel structure in words, phrases, and/or clauses for effect."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one passive-voice sentence, circle the three matching verb phrases in a list, and write 1 beside the list that needs a parallel-structure edit so you can compare how these choices shape the message.

After the Lunch Bell

1 At 3:15, the school cafeteria looked empty, but its work was not finished. A cart held whole apples, oranges, and unopened packages of crackers left from lunch. The students labeled each bag with a date. They checked that the food was safe to share, then set aside anything with a torn wrapper. By four o'clock, the bags were carried to the neighborhood pantry by volunteers. At the pantry, each bag would become a quick snack for someone heading home. On a pantry shelf, the date tells staff which bag should be offered first.

2 The project began when a student noticed how much unopened food came back on lunch trays. Instead of guessing what people wanted, the team asked the pantry which items it could accept. The team set three goals: to collect usable food, to inspect each package, and to deliver supplies before closing time. On pickup days, students worked at a long table near the exit. Some counted apples while others wrote dates on bags. The repeated steps made the work predictable, even when the number of donations changed from one day to the next.

3 One Friday, rain delayed the pantry van, so the bags stayed on a clean shelf inside the school. Maya called the pantry to arrange a later pickup, then wrote the new time on the team's calendar. While they waited, a student drafted a sign for next week: "Our plan is to sort, weighing, and pack donations before the final bell." Maya noticed the uneven list but had no time to change it before the van arrived. At pickup, Maya handed the bags to the driver. The food was delivered to the pantry before dinner.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Rewrite the sentence about volunteers carrying bags in active voice. What becomes the subject?

2. Rewrite “The students labeled each bag with a date” in passive voice. What does your version put first?

3. Quote the three parallel verb phrases in the team’s goals. How does their shared form present the work?

4. Revise the student’s sign so its three actions use parallel structure.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four or five sentences about preparing for an event outside the school cafeteria. Include an active sentence that names a person doing an action, a passive sentence that shifts attention to what receives the action, and a list of three parallel actions. Underline your parallel list.

ANSWER KEY

Choices on the Page

GRADE 10 · 10.5.W.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one passive-voice sentence, circle the three matching verb phrases in a list, and write 1 beside the list that needs a parallel-structure edit so you can compare how these choices shape the message. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Rewrite the sentence about volunteers carrying bags in active voice. What becomes the subject?	**By four o'clock, volunteers carried the bags to the neighborhood pantry. Volunteers becomes the subject.**
2	Rewrite "The students labeled each bag with a date" in passive voice. What does your version put first?	**Each bag was labeled with a date by the students. The sentence puts each bag first.**
3	Quote the three parallel verb phrases in the team's goals. How does their shared form present the work?	**"To collect usable food," "to inspect each package," and "to deliver supplies before closing time" present the goals as equally important steps.**
4	Revise the student's sign so its three actions use parallel structure.	**Our plan is to sort, weigh, and pack donations before the final bell.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On Saturday, my neighbors set up a book swap in the park. We planned to collect novels, to sort picture books, and to label each box. By noon, the books were arranged on tables by volunteers. When visitors arrived, I helped a child find a mystery.

Accept equivalent active and passive revisions that preserve the original meaning. For the sign, accept either three base verbs or three infinitives, as long as all three actions match.