Quote Repair

Shape quotations without changing a speaker's meaning

10.5.W.9 "Students will use an ellipsis to indicate omission from quoted material and brackets to indicate an addition or clarification to quoted material."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the ellipsis and box the bracketed clarification in Maya's edited quotation, then underline the words she omitted from Mr. Bell's complete quotation.

A Backpack Repair Table

1. On Friday, the school library hosted a repair table for broken backpacks. Volunteers brought spare buckles, sturdy thread, and needles, but no one promised a perfect fix. For her article, Maya recorded custodian Mr. Bell's words exactly: "I found three backpacks with loose straps while checking the hallway before school. They were ready after lunch." In her draft, Maya shortened and clarified his words: "I found three backpacks with loose straps ... before school. They [the backpacks] were ready after lunch." Her version lets readers see that some words are missing and that "They" means the backpacks.

2. Across the room, sophomore Leena showed a classmate how to replace a zipper pull with a loop of cord. She told Maya, "We tested three kinds of cord on an old bag, and the thick blue cord held up best." Leena meant the volunteers when she added, "We will show students how to tie the loop during lunch on Tuesday." Maya wanted a short line about the test for her article. She also wanted readers to know who would teach the knot, since a sentence beginning with "We" would not identify the speakers by itself.

3. Near the door, senior Omar examined a backpack whose strap kept slipping through a buckle. He explained, "I tightened the buckle twice before I noticed the strap had been threaded backward." Omar pointed to the strap and said, "It needs to pass under the center bar before you pull it tight." Later, art teacher Ms. Chen described why she brought a box of spare fabric: "I saved these patches from old costumes because small scraps can cover surprisingly large tears." The volunteers closed the table at four o'clock, leaving a few supplies for the next repair day.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Rewrite Leena's first quotation with an ellipsis in place of "on an old bag." Keep the rest of her words in order.

2. Rewrite Leena's second quotation, adding [the volunteers] immediately after "We."

3. Rewrite Omar's first quotation with an ellipsis in place of "twice."

4. Rewrite Omar's second quotation, adding [the strap] immediately after "It."

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use Ms. Chen's complete quotation to write a shorter quotation for an article about the repair table. Omit at least three consecutive words with an ellipsis, and add a bracketed clarification that identifies what "these patches" are without changing her meaning.

ANSWER KEY

Quote Repair

GRADE 10 · 10.5.W.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the ellipsis and box the bracketed clarification in Maya's edited quotation, then underline the words she omitted from Mr. Bell's complete quotation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Rewrite Leena's first quotation with an ellipsis in place of "on an old bag." Keep the rest of her words in order.	**"We tested three kinds of cord … and the thick blue cord held up best."**
2	Rewrite Leena's second quotation, adding [the volunteers] immediately after "We."	**"We [the volunteers] will show students how to tie the loop during lunch on Tuesday."**
3	Rewrite Omar's first quotation with an ellipsis in place of "twice."	**"I tightened the buckle … before I noticed the strap had been threaded backward."**
4	Rewrite Omar's second quotation, adding [the strap] immediately after "It."	**"It [the strap] needs to pass under the center bar before you pull it tight."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

"I saved these [fabric] patches … because small scraps can cover surprisingly large tears."

Accept answers that keep the quoted words in their original order and use an ellipsis for the specified omission. For Your Turn, the bracketed words should clarify the patches, and the omission must cover at least three consecutive words.