Grow an Opinion

Notice how examples support an opinion across paragraphs.

3.3.W.3 "Students will write an opinion about a topic and provide relevant evidence as support in multiple paragraphs with transitional words and phrases."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's opinion, circle the transition words that begin paragraphs 2 and 3, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside one supporting example in each paragraph. Your marks will show how the writer builds an opinion across paragraphs.

Time for a Class Garden

1 Our school should make time for a class garden. A garden would give us a way to study plants up close, not just read about them. For example, we could watch a bean seed sprout and record how its stem changes each week. We could also see how plants grow with sunlight and water. These observations would help our science lessons make sense.

2 In addition, a class garden could give us practice working as a team. One group could fill watering cans while another checks the soil. If a plant's leaves droop, classmates could talk about what the plant may need and decide what to try. Sharing small jobs would let everyone take part. It would also teach us to care for something together.

3 Finally, a class garden could bring fresh tastes to our school day. We could grow cherry tomatoes or snap peas, then try them after washing them. Students who do not know those foods might discover a new favorite. An adult would need to check that the food is safe to eat. With care, our garden could help us learn, work together, and try new foods.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's opinion? Give one example from paragraph 1 that supports it.

2. Which words begin paragraph 2? How does that paragraph add support for the opinion?

3. What example in paragraph 2 shows classmates working together?

4. Which word signals the last supporting reason? Give one example from paragraph 3 that supports that reason.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a change that would make your classroom better, but do not write about a garden. Write one paragraph that states your opinion, gives two specific examples to support it, and uses at least two transition words or phrases.

ANSWER KEY

Grow an Opinion

GRADE 3 · 3.3.W.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's opinion, circle the transition words that begin paragraphs 2 and 3, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside one supporting example in each paragraph. Your marks will show how the writer builds an opinion across paragraphs. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's opinion? Give one example from paragraph 1 that supports it.	**The school should make time for a class garden. Students could watch a bean seed sprout and record changes in its stem.**
2	Which words begin paragraph 2? How does that paragraph add support for the opinion?	**"In addition" begins paragraph 2. The paragraph explains that a garden would help students practice teamwork.**
3	What example in paragraph 2 shows classmates working together?	**One group could fill watering cans while another checks the soil.**
4	Which word signals the last supporting reason? Give one example from paragraph 3 that supports that reason.	**"Finally" signals the last reason. Students could grow cherry tomatoes or snap peas and try them after washing them.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our classroom should have a quiet reading corner. First, students who finish their work could read there without disturbing classmates who are still writing. A rug and a basket of books would give them a place to sit and choose a story. Also, partners could share books there instead of crowding around a desk. A small shelf would keep the books together and easy to find.

Accept other relevant examples from each paragraph. For the open task, look for a clear classroom-change opinion, two specific supporting examples, and at least two transitions.