The Missing Card

Trace how a writer plans, drafts, and revises a story.

5.2.W.1 "Students will routinely use a recursive process to prewrite, organize, and draft multi-paragraph narrative, informative, and opinion drafts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the passage paragraphs 1, 2, and 3. Underline one action that shows planning or organizing, then circle two places where the writer goes back to change the draft.

Writing the Missing Card Story

1. Before I wrote my story about the missing recipe card, I filled a page with quick notes. I remembered flour on the counter, a card slipping behind the toaster, and my brother searching every drawer. I chose three story parts: our plan to bake bread, the missing card, and how we found it. That order would help a reader understand why we searched.

2. During my first draft, I began with a long list of ingredients. Then I noticed that the card did not disappear until halfway through the story. The search felt less exciting because readers had to wait for the problem. I went back to my notes and circled my brother's shout, "The card is gone!" I moved that moment to the opening paragraph.

3. After the new opening, I drafted the middle paragraph about our search. My notes said that my brother checked every drawer, but I remembered a better detail: flour dust on the toaster. I added that clue before the final paragraph, where we found the card behind it. Then I reread the beginning and changed "We baked bread" to "We were about to bake bread" so the events made sense.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What three story parts did the writer plan before drafting? List them in order.

2. What problem did the writer notice in the first draft, and what did the writer return to for help?

3. Which moment did the writer move to the opening paragraph? Why?

4. What detail did the writer add to the middle? What words did the writer change after rereading the beginning?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Jot a three-event plan for a real or imagined story about a small problem. Draft one paragraph of four sentences in that order, then reread your plan, add one detail that makes an event clearer, and underline the detail you added.

ANSWER KEY # The Missing Card

GRADE 5 · 5.2.W.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the passage paragraphs 1, 2, and 3. Underline one action that shows planning or organizing, then circle two places where the writer goes back to change the draft. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three story parts did the writer plan before drafting? List them in order.	**The plan was to tell about getting ready to bake bread, discovering the card was missing, and finding it.**
2	What problem did the writer notice in the first draft, and what did the writer return to for help?	**The problem came too late in the story, so the writer returned to the notes.**
3	Which moment did the writer move to the opening paragraph? Why?	**The writer moved the brother's shout, "The card is gone!" to the opening so readers would not have to wait for the problem.**
4	What detail did the writer add to the middle? What words did the writer change after rereading the beginning?	**The writer added flour dust on the toaster and changed "We baked bread" to "We were about to bake bread."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Plan: kite tangles; I try to free it; neighbor helps.
On Saturday, my kite caught in a low tree. I pulled the string, but the branch held tight. My neighbor brought a broom and gently lifted the string off the branch. I thanked her and watched the kite rise again.

Accept any suitable planning action and two points where the writer revisits notes or a drafted paragraph for the marking job. For Part 3, look for a three-event plan, a four-sentence paragraph in that order, and an underlined detail that clarifies an event.