Beneath the Garden

Read closely to spot how sentences are built.

5.5.R.1 "Students will recognize simple, compound, and complex (i.e., independent and dependent clauses) sentences."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Part 1 READ AND MARK: Number the passage sentences 1 to 12. Write S beside each simple sentence, C beside each compound sentence, and X beside each complex sentence.

An Earthworm's Garden

1 After a long afternoon of steady showers, the garden path looks shiny and soft. At dusk, an earthworm slides across the wet soil in a neighborhood garden. Because its skin must stay moist, the worm often travels over damp ground. It has no legs, but tiny bristles help it grip the ground.

2 It eats bits of dead plants, and its waste adds nutrients to the soil. The worm pulls dry leaves into its narrow tunnel beneath a patch of beans. When the worm pushes through the dirt, it leaves small spaces for air and water. Nearby roots can grow through this loosened soil toward the water below.

3 If the soil stays moist, earthworms can keep moving and feeding near the surface. During a hot afternoon, the worm stays deep underground in cooler, wetter soil. The surface dries quickly, so the worm avoids the garden path until evening. Gardeners often notice small piles of worm waste on top of the ground.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Part 2 QUESTIONS: In paragraph 1, which sentence begins with a dependent clause? Copy that clause.

2. In paragraph 2, find the compound sentence. What two complete thoughts does it join?

3. In paragraph 3, copy the simple sentence that tells where the worm stays on a hot afternoon.

4. In paragraph 3, copy the dependent clause that gives a condition. Is its whole sentence simple, compound, or complex?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Part 3 YOUR TURN: Write three original sentences about a bird finding food in a park. Write one simple, one compound, and one complex sentence, and label each S, C, or X.

ANSWER KEY # Beneath the Garden

GRADE 5 · 5.5.R.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Part 1 READ AND MARK: Number the passage sentences 1 to 12. Write S beside each simple sentence, C beside each compound sentence, and X beside each complex sentence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Part 2 QUESTIONS: In paragraph 1, which sentence begins with a dependent clause? Copy that clause.	**Sentence 3 begins with the dependent clause "Because its skin must stay moist."**
2	In paragraph 2, find the compound sentence. What two complete thoughts does it join?	**Sentence 5 joins "It eats bits of dead plants" and "its waste adds nutrients to the soil."**
3	In paragraph 3, copy the simple sentence that tells where the worm stays on a hot afternoon.	**During a hot afternoon, the worm stays deep underground in cooler, wetter soil.**
4	In paragraph 3, copy the dependent clause that gives a condition. Is its whole sentence simple, compound, or complex?	**"If the soil stays moist" is the dependent clause. Sentence 9 is complex.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

S: A sparrow pecks at seeds beside a park bench. C: The sparrow hops across the grass, and it finds a fallen berry. X: When the sparrow spots a crumb, it darts beneath the picnic table.

Part 1 labels in sentence order are 1 S, 2 S, 3 X, 4 C; 5 C, 6 S, 7 X, 8 S; 9 X, 10 S, 11 C, 12 S. For Part 3, accept original sentences with one independent clause for S, two independent clauses for C, and an independent plus a dependent clause for X.