Seeds and Sentences

Notice how sentence patterns shape a short story

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

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In each paragraph, underline one simple sentence, circle one compound sentence, and write C beside one complex sentence. Mark the whole sentence each time.

The Seed Swap

1. On Saturday, our school held a seed swap in the library. Families brought small packets, and volunteers set them on long tables. When I opened a packet of sunflower seeds, I found a note from my neighbor. The note named a sunny spot near the fence. I wanted to plant the seeds right away, but rain tapped against the windows. Because the ground was soaked, I waited until Sunday.

2. By morning, the rain had stopped. My brother carried a trowel, and I carried the seed packet. After we chose a bright patch, we loosened the soil with the trowel. We made three shallow holes beside the fence. I dropped one seed into each hole, but my brother covered the seeds with soil. Because birds often visit our yard, we placed a small screen over the patch.

3. A week later, tiny green shoots appeared. The stems leaned toward the sun, and their leaves opened in the warm air. Although one shoot was smaller, it kept growing beside the others. Our neighbor checked the patch on her walk home. She smiled at the new plants, and I told her about the note. When autumn arrives, we will save a few seeds for the next swap.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what is the dependent clause in the sentence about opening a packet?

2. In paragraph 2, copy the two independent clauses from the sentence about carrying a trowel and a seed packet.

3. Copy the simple sentence in paragraph 3 about the neighbor's walk. How many independent clauses does it have?

4. In paragraph 3, what word joins the two independent clauses in the sentence about stems and leaves? What type of sentence is it?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about a project or activity you have done or could do. Write one simple sentence, one compound sentence joined by and, but, or so, and one complex sentence that begins with When, Because, or Although. Label them S, CD, and CX.

ANSWER KEY

Seeds and Sentences

GRADE 5 · 5.5.W.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, underline one simple sentence, circle one compound sentence, and write C beside one complex sentence. Mark the whole sentence each time. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what is the dependent clause in the sentence about opening a packet?	**When I opened a packet of sunflower seeds**
2	In paragraph 2, copy the two independent clauses from the sentence about carrying a trowel and a seed packet.	**My brother carried a trowel. I carried the seed packet.**
3	Copy the simple sentence in paragraph 3 about the neighbor's walk. How many independent clauses does it have?	**Our neighbor checked the patch on her walk home. It has one independent clause.**
4	In paragraph 3, what word joins the two independent clauses in the sentence about stems and leaves? What type of sentence is it?	**The joining word is and. It is a compound sentence.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

S: I built a cardboard castle.
CD: I cut out a door, and my sister painted the walls.
CX: When the paint dried, we added paper flags.

For the passage marks, accept any one correct example of each sentence type in each paragraph. For the writing task, check that each labeled sentence has the required clause pattern.