Crossing Clues

Use text features to follow an article's ideas.

5.6.R.2 "Students will identify and use text features (e.g., graphics, captions, headings/subheadings, bold/italicized words, charts, tables, legends) to analyze the structure of informational texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the three section headings, circle the two bold terms in the paragraphs, and number the sections in reading order. Use your marks to see how the article moves from one idea to the next.

A Safer Way Across

1 **Roadside Trouble** A fox smells food on the other side of a road. Before it can cross, cars rush past. Roads can split an animal's home into separate areas, making it harder to reach food or shelter. Some animals try to cross anyway. Drivers may not see a small animal at night. People who plan roads look for ways to give wildlife a safer route.

2 **A Path Beneath the Road** One option is a **wildlife underpass**, a tunnel built below a road. Its opening lets animals travel between areas without stepping onto the pavement. A fence along the road can guide them toward the tunnel instead of across traffic. Some tunnels are wide enough for deer, while smaller passages may suit turtles or frogs.

3 **Signs of Visitors** How can people tell whether animals use the new route? Workers may place a **track pad**, a patch of soft soil or sand, near an underpass. Footprints can show that animals passed by, though a print alone does not prove an animal crossed the whole tunnel. Workers can also use motion-triggered cameras to record visits and study which animals appear.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which heading helps you find out why animals need a safer route? Give one detail from that section.

2. How do the two bold terms help show the change in focus from the second section to the third?

3. How do the three headings show the order of ideas in the article?

4. If you want to learn what a fence does, which heading should you scan? Why does that section fit?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new subheading for a fourth section about keeping an underpass useful over time. Write two sentences for that section, then one sentence explaining how your subheading helps readers find its topic.

ANSWER KEY

Crossing Clues

GRADE 5 · 5.6.R.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the three section headings, circle the two bold terms in the paragraphs, and number the sections in reading order. Use your marks to see how the article moves from one idea to the next. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which heading helps you find out why animals need a safer route? Give one detail from that section.	**Roadside Trouble. Roads can separate areas where animals find food or shelter.**
2	How do the two bold terms help show the change in focus from the second section to the third?	**Wildlife underpass names the safer route described in the second section. Track pad names a tool for checking animal visits in the third.**
3	How do the three headings show the order of ideas in the article?	**They move from the danger roads create, to a safer path, to ways people check for animal visitors.**
4	If you want to learn what a fence does, which heading should you scan? Why does that section fit?	**A Path Beneath the Road. That section explains how the underpass works, including how a fence guides animals toward it.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Keeping the Route Open
Crews can clear fallen branches from an underpass entrance. They can repair broken fences so animals still reach the safe path. My subheading tells readers this section is about caring for the crossing after it is built.

Accept other accurate details and wording in the short answers. For Your Turn, look for a relevant subheading, two plausible sentences about upkeep, and one sentence explaining what the subheading helps readers find.