The Sound Test

Notice how end marks match a sentence's purpose.

7.5.W.5 "Students will write using correct end mark mechanics."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle every end mark in the passage. Beside each one, write S for a statement, Q for a direct question, or E for an exclamation.

Mara's Sound Lab

1 At the school library, Mara found a cardboard box labeled Sound Lab. Inside were a rubber band, an empty tin, and a note from last year's science club. Could ordinary objects make a sound that filled the whole room? Mara stretched the band across the tin and plucked it. A thin twang bounced off the shelves. She moved the band closer to the tin's edge, then tried again. The note offered one clue: change where the band touches the metal. Mara had three minutes before the club meeting began.

2 When the other students arrived, Mara held up the tin. Could they hear the twang from the doorway? Imani stood by the exit and shook her head. Mara pressed the tin against a wooden tabletop and plucked the band again. This time, the table hummed beneath her hands. What a difference! The band still made its familiar twang, but the larger surface helped move more air and made the sound louder. Would a plastic tray work as well? The group decided to test it.

3 Imani held the plastic tray while Mara plucked the band over it. The tray rattled, but the sound was softer than it had been on the table. Next, they tried a hollow cardboard box. Its sides buzzed like an insect near a window. Which surface would make the best display for the library fair? Mara wrote their results on a scrap of paper so visitors could compare the sounds. She wondered whether a larger box would sound different. The club had turned one rubber band into a small experiment.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the direct question in paragraph 1. What end mark closes it, and why?

2. Why does “What a difference!” end with an exclamation point instead of a question mark?

3. Why does “She wondered whether a larger box would sound different.” end with a period?

4. Compare the end marks on “Would a plastic tray work as well?” and “The group decided to test it.” Why are they different?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write five sentences about testing a new invention at school. Include two statements, two direct questions, and one exclamation, using the correct end mark for each.

ANSWER KEY

The Sound Test

GRADE 7 · 7.5.W.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle every end mark in the passage. Beside each one, write S for a statement, Q for a direct question, or E for an exclamation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the direct question in paragraph 1. What end mark closes it, and why?	**"Could ordinary objects make a sound that filled the whole room?" ends with a question mark because it asks a direct question.**
2	Why does "What a difference!" end with an exclamation point instead of a question mark?	**It expresses surprise about the louder sound rather than asking a question.**
3	Why does "She wondered whether a larger box would sound different." end with a period?	**It states what Mara wondered. It does not ask the reader a direct question.**
4	Compare the end marks on "Would a plastic tray work as well?" and "The group decided to test it." Why are they different?	**The first sentence asks a direct question, so it ends with a question mark. The second makes a statement, so it ends with a period.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our team built a tiny fan from a motor and paper blades. Would it cool a cup of water? We switched it on beside the cup. Why did the paper blades wobble? What a noisy little fan!

For the marking job, accept S for sentences that state an idea, Q for the four direct questions, and E for "What a difference!" In Part 3, check for exactly two statements, two direct questions, and one exclamation with matching end marks.