Connect the Clues

Choose the word that fits the ideas.

2.LF.43.d "Expand sentences using frequently-occurring conjunctions."

NAME _____ DATE _____

IDEAS GO TOGETHER

Use and to add an idea that goes with the first idea. It can also tell what happened next.

A robin sang, and a finch chirped.

A SURPRISE

Use but when the next idea is different from what you might expect.

The trail was steep, but our team climbed it.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, then circle AND or BUT to fill the blank so the ideas fit.

1. Lena pushed the door, _____ it opened. AND BUT

2. The rain fell, _____ the grass got wet. AND BUT

3. I was sleepy, _____ I stayed awake. AND BUT

4. Kai cut the apple, _____ he shared the slices. AND BUT

5. The coat was thick, _____ I still felt cold. AND BUT

6. I practiced a lot, _____ I did not win. AND BUT

7. The kite rose, _____ it flew over the fence. AND BUT

8. We filled the pail, _____ we carried it home. AND BUT

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one AND item and one BUT item, and tell how you knew each word fits.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new sentence with and and one new sentence with but.

AND _____

BUT _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that uses both and and but to connect three ideas.

ANSWER KEY

Connect the Clues

GRADE 2 · 2.LF.43.d

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Lena pushed the door, ____ it opened.	**AND**	The door opening follows from Lena pushing it.
2	The rain fell, ____ the grass got wet.	**AND**	The wet grass follows from the rain.
3	I was sleepy, ____ I stayed awake.	**BUT**	Staying awake is unexpected when the speaker is sleepy.
4	Kai cut the apple, ____ he shared the slices.	**AND**	Sharing the slices is a related next action.
5	The coat was thick, ____ I still felt cold.	**BUT**	Feeling cold despite a thick coat is unexpected.
6	I practiced a lot, ____ I did not win.	**BUT**	Not winning contrasts with the expectation set by practicing a lot.
7	The kite rose, ____ it flew over the fence.	**AND**	Flying over the fence follows from the kite rising.
8	We filled the pail, ____ we carried it home.	**AND**	Carrying the pail is a related next action.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one AND item and one BUT item, and tell how you knew each word fits.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **AND**: The bird landed, and it ate a seed.
- **BUT**: I wanted to swim, but the pool was closed.

Challenge: I built a tower, and my sister built a bridge, but our dog knocked them down.

For Part 2, students should explain how AND joins related ideas and BUT connects an unexpected idea. Accept other original sentences that use each conjunction to connect ideas clearly.