Visuals With Purpose

Choose visuals that make a presentation's main idea clearer.

5SL5 "Include digital media and/or visual displays in presentations to emphasize and enhance central ideas or themes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline Maya's central idea, then circle each visual choice that supports it and number the choices in the order she will use them.

Maya Helps Monarchs

1. For the school science night, Maya is creating a short presentation about monarch butterflies. Her central idea is that people can help monarchs by planting native flowers. She plans to explain that monarch caterpillars need milkweed for food, while adult butterflies drink nectar from many flowers. Maya wants each part of her presentation to point back to the action people can take.

2. After she explains milkweed, Maya will show a close-up photograph of a monarch caterpillar eating a milkweed leaf. A short caption will read, "Milkweed feeds monarch caterpillars." The photograph helps the audience connect the plant to the caterpillar's need. Maya will not add a picture of a playground, even though it is colorful, because it does not explain how to help monarchs.

3. At the end, Maya will display two labeled photos, one of milkweed and one of a nectar flower. Beside them, she will write, "Plant both kinds of flowers." This final visual repeats her central idea and gives the audience a clear action. She will speak the names of local native plants, so listeners can look for them later.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What central idea should Maya's presentation emphasize?

2. How do the caterpillar photograph and its caption help Maya's audience understand her idea?

3. Why would a colorful playground picture be a weak visual choice for Maya's presentation?

4. Describe Maya's final visual display. How does it reinforce her central idea?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one action people can take at school or in the community. In the box, sketch a visual display for a presentation that supports your central idea. Then write two sentences that state your idea and explain how the visual helps the audience understand it. Then give the presentation to a partner, showing and pointing to your visual as you explain your main idea or key fact. Ask your partner what the display helped them notice or understand, and clarify if needed. Teacher help and paper displays are welcome.

ANSWER KEY

Visuals With Purpose

GRADE 5 · 5SL5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline Maya's central idea, then circle each visual choice that supports it and number the choices in the order she will use them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What central idea should Maya's presentation emphasize?	**People can help monarch butterflies by planting native flowers.**
2	How do the caterpillar photograph and its caption help Maya's audience understand her idea?	**They show that a caterpillar eats milkweed and explain that milkweed feeds monarch caterpillars.**
3	Why would a colorful playground picture be a weak visual choice for Maya's presentation?	**It would be weak because it does not explain how people can help monarchs.**
4	Describe Maya's final visual display. How does it reinforce her central idea?	**It shows labeled photos of milkweed and a nectar flower with the words "Plant both kinds of flowers." It reinforces the action people can take to help monarchs.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

[Sketch: A reusable water bottle stands beside a crossed-out disposable plastic bottle.] My central idea is that students can reduce plastic waste by using reusable water bottles. The sketch makes the better choice easy for the audience to see.

Accept answers that identify a visual's direct connection to Maya's message about planting native flowers. For the open task, accept varied topics when the sketch clearly supports the stated central idea and the explanation tells how it helps the audience. Observe actual presentation using your visual, with a clear connection to the central idea or key fact. Ask the listener what the display helped explain or emphasize. A future plan alone is insufficient; provide materials and accessible presentation support as needed.