Monarch Route Links

Notice how phrases connect ideas across a model set of paragraphs.

5.W.2.A.iii "Engage in writing as a process to compose well-developed paragraphs. This includes: Using transition words and prepositional phrases for sentence variety and link one sentence and paragraph to another."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each transition word or phrase. Circle each prepositional phrase, then number the transitions that connect one paragraph to the next.

A Monarch's Long Flight

1 Each autumn, millions of monarch butterflies leave Canada and the United States for mountain forests in central Mexico. The journey can stretch more than 2,000 miles. At first, a monarch uses warm air currents to glide for long distances. Along the way, it drinks nectar from late-blooming flowers. These small meals provide energy for the long flight south.

2 However, the trip is not finished when the butterflies reach Mexico. In the oyamel fir forests, they cluster on tree branches during cool winter days. In those forests, the trees shelter them from rain and wind. By spring, the butterflies begin flying north. They stop at milkweed plants, where they lay eggs for the next generation of monarchs.

3 Meanwhile, people can help monarchs along their route. In a sunny garden, native milkweed gives caterpillars their only food. In addition, nectar plants such as asters and goldenrods feed adult butterflies. Gardeners should avoid spraying pesticides near these plants. As a result, one small garden can become a useful stop for traveling monarchs each year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which transition begins paragraph 2? What contrast does it show?

2. Find two prepositional phrases in paragraph 2. What does each phrase tell the reader?

3. Which phrase begins paragraph 3? How does it connect the new paragraph to the earlier paragraphs?

4. What effect does the phrase As a result introduce in paragraph 3?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two short paragraphs, with two sentences in each paragraph, about preparing for a class field day. Begin the second paragraph with a transition word or phrase, and include at least one prepositional phrase in each paragraph.

ANSWER KEY

Monarch Route Links

GRADE 5 · 5.W.2.A.iii

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each transition word or phrase. Circle each prepositional phrase, then number the transitions that connect one paragraph to the next. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which transition begins paragraph 2? What contrast does it show?	**However. It shows that reaching Mexico does not mean the trip is finished.**
2	Find two prepositional phrases in paragraph 2. What does each phrase tell the reader?	**In the oyamel fir forests tells where the butterflies cluster. By spring tells when they begin flying north.**
3	Which phrase begins paragraph 3? How does it connect the new paragraph to the earlier paragraphs?	**Meanwhile. It connects people helping monarchs to the monarchs' ongoing migration.**
4	What effect does the phrase As a result introduce in paragraph 3?	**It introduces the effect that a small garden can become a useful stop for traveling monarchs.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before field day, our class will pack water bottles and hats. In our backpacks, we will also place sunscreen and a small towel.

Then, at the park, we will meet near the running track. After lunch, we will clean our area before returning to school.

Accept accurately marked transition words or phrases and prepositional phrases that connect ideas or add time, place, or detail. For the writing task, accept varied relevant topics if the response has two paragraphs, two sentences per paragraph, a transition beginning paragraph 2, and prepositional phrases in both paragraphs.