Say It Straight

Sort presentation statements by clarity and concision.

8.C.2.A.i "Deliver collaborative and individual formal and informal interactive presentations This includes: Clearly communicating information in an organized and succinct manner."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CLEAR AND SUCCINCT

These statements give a specific point using direct words, precise details, or a logical order. A listener can understand the message quickly.

The eclipse begins at 2:14 p.m., so viewers need protective glasses.

WORDY OR UNCLEAR

These statements use extra words, vague ideas, or an unfocused topic. A listener may not know the main point.

The bakery sale was very nice and had many things that people liked for different reasons.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CLEAR or WORDY for each statement, then choose two items and explain which words helped you decide.

1.	Our fundraiser earned $600 for new playground equipment.	CLEAR WORDY
2.	There are many important details about our fundraiser that could be talked about for a long time.	CLEAR WORDY
3.	First, we will describe the cause. Then, we will explain the effect.	CLEAR WORDY
4.	The new bus route adds a stop near the community center.	CLEAR WORDY
5.	The bus change is good in many ways, and it affects many different people.	CLEAR WORDY
6.	Our report covers several topics that are interesting and important to everyone.	CLEAR WORDY
7.	The book drive collected 185 novels for the shelter.	CLEAR WORDY
8.	In conclusion, a later deadline would give teams time to edit.	CLEAR WORDY

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new CLEAR statement and one new WORDY statement about a presentation topic.

CLEAR _____

WORDY _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one WORDY item and rewrite it in 12 words or fewer so it gives one specific, clear point. Deliver the revised statement aloud to a partner. Ask the listener to restate its main point and say whether it was clear and concise. Answer one clarifying question, then revise and repeat if needed. Record brief feedback.

ANSWER KEY

Say It Straight

GRADE 8 · 8.C.2.A.i

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Our fundraiser earned $600 for new playground equipment.	**CLEAR**	It gives one specific result and purpose.
2	There are many important details about our fundraiser that could be talked about for a long time.	**WORDY**	It is vague and uses extra words without stating a main point.
3	First, we will describe the cause. Then, we will explain the effect.	**CLEAR**	It clearly organizes the presentation in order.
4	The new bus route adds a stop near the community center.	**CLEAR**	It states one specific change directly.
5	The bus change is good in many ways, and it affects many different people.	**WORDY**	It uses vague phrases such as "many ways" and "many different people."
6	Our report covers several topics that are interesting and important to everyone.	**WORDY**	It does not name the topics or give a focused point.
7	The book drive collected 185 novels for the shelter.	**CLEAR**	It gives a precise result and destination.
8	In conclusion, a later deadline would give teams time to edit.	**CLEAR**	It clearly states a conclusion and reason.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CLEAR**: The robotics meeting starts at 3:15 in Room 204.
- **WORDY**: The robotics meeting is a thing that has information and activities for many people.

Challenge: Our report explains how the new lunch schedule reduced cafeteria lines.

For Part 2, accept explanations that point to specific details, logical order, vague language, or unnecessary words. For Part 3 and the challenge, accept varied answers that match the category requirements. Observe actual delivery and listener restatement plus a clarifying exchange. Check the revised statement has at most 12 words and a specific point; assess clarity and concision as heard, not only on paper.