Reasons That Connect

Read a model opinion and notice how each reason connects to it.

4.W.1.c "Link opinion and reasons using grade level appropriate words and phrases."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's opinion. Circle the words or phrases that connect the opinion to reasons, then number three different reasons in the passage.

A Club for Lunch

1. Our school should start a board-game club at lunch once a week. One reason is that games give students a way to talk with classmates they do not know well. When players take turns, they can ask questions and share ideas about their next moves. Because everyone has a part to play, even a quiet student has a chance to join the conversation.

2. Another reason is that a club could use games the school already owns. Students could also bring games from home if their families agree. For example, a donated deck of cards can be used for many different games. This means the club would not need a big supply of new materials. A teacher could check that each game has all its pieces before lunch begins.

3. Finally, board games work well indoors when the weather keeps students inside. On a rainy day, a small group could play at a table without needing a field or gym. Players would need to follow the rules and put the pieces away before class. For these reasons, a weekly board-game club would give students a useful choice at lunch.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, which words introduce the first reason? What reason follows?

2. In paragraph 2, how does “For example” connect the deck of cards to the writer's reason?

3. Which word in paragraph 3 introduces a new reason? What is that reason?

4. At the end, what does “For these reasons” connect to the writer's opinion? Name two reasons it gathers.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences recommending a lunchtime activity other than board games. State your opinion, give two different reasons, and use a linking word or phrase to connect each reason to your opinion.

ANSWER KEY

Reasons That Connect

GRADE 4 · 4.W.1.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's opinion. Circle the words or phrases that connect the opinion to reasons, then number three different reasons in the passage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, which words introduce the first reason? What reason follows?	**"One reason is that" introduces the idea that games help students talk with classmates.**
2	In paragraph 2, how does "For example" connect the deck of cards to the writer's reason?	**It introduces the deck of cards as an example of a game the club could use without buying many new materials.**
3	Which word in paragraph 3 introduces a new reason? What is that reason?	**"Finally" introduces the reason that board games work well indoors when students cannot go outside.**
4	At the end, what does "For these reasons" connect to the writer's opinion? Name two reasons it gathers.	**It connects the recommendation for a weekly club to reasons such as helping students talk with classmates and giving them an indoor activity.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should offer a lunchtime drawing club. One reason is that students could make pictures with pencils and paper. Also, drawing gives students a quiet way to spend time with friends. That is why a drawing club would be a good lunch choice.

Accept accurate paraphrases of the passage's reasons. For the writing task, look for an opinion about a different lunchtime activity, two distinct reasons, and a linking word or phrase for each reason.