

Rainwater Connections

Trace how informational text connects causes, effects, problems, and solutions.

3.9.D.iii “organizational patterns such as cause and effect and problem and solution;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline phrases that show cause and effect. Circle each problem and draw a box around the solution that follows it.

Rainwater in the Neighborhood

- ① After a heavy rain, water can rush over streets and parking lots. The fast water picks up oil, litter, and soil. Because these materials flow into storm drains, they may reach nearby streams. Muddy water can block sunlight that water plants need. As a result, fewer plants may grow, and fish can lose places to hide.
- ② One neighborhood had a problem with flooding after storms. Rainwater poured from roofs and sidewalks into one low corner of the park. The area stayed wet for days, so children could not use the field. To solve the problem, workers planted a rain garden there. Its deep-rooted plants and loose soil soak up water, helping the field dry sooner.
- ③ Rain gardens also help birds and insects. When native flowers bloom, they provide nectar for bees and butterflies. The insects then become food for some birds. However, a rain garden can fail if it fills with trash. Volunteers can remove litter and pull weeds, which lets water enter the soil and keeps the garden healthy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What organizational pattern is mainly used in the first paragraph?

2 What causes muddy water to reach nearby streams, and what is one effect of the muddy water?

3 What problem did the neighborhood have in paragraph 2, and what solution did workers use?

4 What problem could make a rain garden fail in paragraph 3, and how can volunteers solve it?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence informational paragraph about a problem at school or home. State the problem, give a solution, and explain one cause-and-effect result of the solution using a phrase such as because, so, or as a result.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline phrases that show cause and effect. Circle each problem and draw a box around the solution that follows it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What organizational pattern is mainly used in the first paragraph?	Cause and effect.
2	What causes muddy water to reach nearby streams, and what is one effect of the muddy water?	Rainwater carries oil, litter, and soil into storm drains; muddy water can block sunlight, so fewer water plants may grow or fish can lose hiding places.
3	What problem did the neighborhood have in paragraph 2, and what solution did workers use?	The park field flooded and stayed wet for days; workers planted a rain garden with deep-rooted plants and loose soil.
4	What problem could make a rain garden fail in paragraph 3, and how can volunteers solve it?	Trash can make the rain garden fail; volunteers can remove litter and pull weeds.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our classroom pencils often roll off desks and get lost. To solve this problem, we placed a cup of pencils on each table. Because pencils now have a place, students can find them quickly, so less class time is wasted.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the cause-and-effect and problem-and-solution relationships in the passage. For Part 3, accept any realistic three-sentence response that includes a clear problem, solution, and result linked with a cause-and-effect signal phrase.