

Source Connections

Connect personal experiences to what you read and hear.

5.7.A “describe personal connections to a variety of sources, including self-selected texts;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each source the narrator uses. Underline the personal experience connected to it, then number each source-and-experience pair 1, 2, and 3.

Trailside Connections

- ① On Saturday, I visited the river trail with my uncle and found a sign about native plants. It explained that native plants grew in the area before many lawns and roads were built. I remembered the purple flowers beside my grandmother’s porch. She calls them bee food because bees visit them all morning. The sign helped me see that her small garden is part of a larger habitat.
- ② Later, I chose a magazine article about monarch butterflies. The article said monarchs lay eggs only on milkweed plants, and their caterpillars eat milkweed leaves. Last spring, my class watched caterpillars in a netted container. We gave them milkweed each day, so I could picture why finding that plant matters to monarchs during their journeys.
- ③ I also listened to a park ranger’s short audio recording about keeping streams clean. She asked visitors to carry out snack wrappers because litter can wash into the river after rain. That made me think of our soccer team’s cleanup day. I had picked up a plastic bottle near a storm drain, but I had not understood where rainwater might carry it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What source connects the narrator to the grandmother's porch, and what does the narrator learn through that connection?

2 What past class experience does the narrator connect to the magazine article, and how does it help the narrator understand the article?

3 What does the narrator's soccer team cleanup memory add to the park ranger's audio recording?

4 How are the narrator's connections to the trail sign and the audio recording alike?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a book, article, podcast, video, or other source you selected yourself. Write exactly three sentences that name the source, describe a personal connection, and explain how one detail from the source helped you think more deeply about that connection.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each source the narrator uses. Underline the personal experience connected to it, then number each source-and-experience pair 1, 2, and 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What source connects the narrator to the grandmother's porch, and what does the narrator learn through that connection?	The trail sign about native plants connects to the porch flowers. The narrator learns that the grandmother's garden is part of a larger habitat.
2	What past class experience does the narrator connect to the magazine article, and how does it help the narrator understand the article?	The narrator remembers feeding milkweed to caterpillars in class. This helps the narrator understand why milkweed is important to monarchs.
3	What does the narrator's soccer team cleanup memory add to the park ranger's audio recording?	It helps the narrator realize that a bottle near a storm drain could be carried into the river by rainwater.
4	How are the narrator's connections to the trail sign and the audio recording alike?	Both connections use a past personal experience to help the narrator understand the source's message.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I chose the novel *Because of Winn-Dixie*. Opal feels lonely after moving to Naomi, which reminds me of being new on a team. Her friendships with Winn-Dixie and other people show me that meeting others can make a new place feel less lonely.

Accept answers that accurately match each source to the narrator's related experience and explain the resulting understanding. For Part 3, accept a variety of sources and connections if the student includes a specific source detail and a clear explanation.