

Shape the Draft

Notice revision choices that help readers understand a plan.

6.10.C “revise drafts for clarity, development, organization, style, word choice, and sentence variety;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one sentence in each paragraph that uses precise details to make an idea clear. Circle the words or phrases that help you follow the order of Maya's revisions and plan.

The Pollinator Patch Proposal

- ① When Maya drafted a proposal for a pollinator patch beside the school library, her first paragraph said, "We should make a garden because it would be nice." During revision, she replaced "nice" with a clear goal: "A pollinator patch can provide nectar and shelter for bees, butterflies, and other insects." She added that the site receives six hours of sunlight daily and sits near a water spigot. These details tell readers why the location could support native flowering plants.
- ② Maya reorganized the next section so readers would see the plan in order. First, the science club will measure a 12-by-8-foot bed and remove grass. Next, volunteers will spread compost and plant coneflowers, bee balm, and goldenrod. After planting, students will add a shallow dish filled with pebbles and water for insects. Finally, the club will record weekly observations in a notebook. The sequence makes the work easier to picture and prevents steps from seeming random.
- ③ To improve the ending, Maya cut a repeated sentence that began, "The garden will..." Instead, she wrote, "By autumn, the patch may become a living lab where classes compare insect visitors and seed types." This longer sentence follows several shorter action sentences, creating a smoother rhythm. Maya also changed the general word "things" to "seed types," so readers know exactly what students will compare. Her revised proposal ends with a request for permission to use the library-side bed during the fall planting week.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What vague word did Maya replace in her first draft, and what clear goal replaced it?

2 List the four actions in Maya's plan from paragraph 2 in the order they will happen.

3 How does Maya's new sentence about autumn improve sentence variety in the ending?

4 Which general word did Maya change to make her meaning more exact, and what word did she use instead?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a two-sentence draft for a school improvement idea. Then revise it into a four-sentence paragraph that includes a precise goal, two concrete details, a transition that orders an action, and sentence beginnings or lengths that vary.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one sentence in each paragraph that uses precise details to make an idea clear. Circle the words or phrases that help you follow the order of Maya's revisions and plan. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What vague word did Maya replace in her first draft, and what clear goal replaced it?	She replaced "nice" with the goal that a pollinator patch can provide nectar and shelter for bees, butterflies, and other insects.
2	List the four actions in Maya's plan from paragraph 2 in the order they will happen.	Measure the bed and remove grass; spread compost and plant flowers; add a shallow pebble-and-water dish; record weekly observations.
3	How does Maya's new sentence about autumn improve sentence variety in the ending?	It is a longer sentence that follows several shorter action sentences, creating a smoother rhythm.
4	Which general word did Maya change to make her meaning more exact, and what word did she use instead?	She changed "things" to "seed types."

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Draft: Our school should have a book swap. It would be good for students. Revised: Our school should hold a monthly book swap in the cafeteria. First, students could place gently used books on labeled tables before lunch. A volunteer team would sort the books by genre, including mystery, fantasy, and biography. By the end of lunch, each student could choose one new title to take home.

Accept reasonable revisions that make an idea clearer through specific details, logical order, precise word choice, and varied sentences. The student's revised paragraph should have four sentences and meet each listed requirement.