Butterfly Voices

Notice how a speaker organizes a story and uses voice choices.

3.C.2.A.ii "Report orally on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner. This includes: Speaking audibly with appropriate pacing, prosody, and voice level."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the words that show the order of the report. Circle each place where the speaker pauses or changes voice, so you can plan a clear, interesting oral report.

The Butterfly Release

1. Last Friday, our class carried a small box to the school garden. Inside were six monarch butterflies. First, I spoke in a clear classroom voice so everyone could hear. I said, "We raised these butterflies from tiny caterpillars." Then I paused after the sentence. The pause gave my listeners time to picture the caterpillars growing.

2. Next, I opened the box slowly and held it near a purple flower. One butterfly climbed onto my finger. I said, "Look closely!" with a little excitement in my voice. I did not shout, because we were outside near other classes. After a short pause, I lowered my hand. The butterfly opened its wings and flew over the garden fence.

3. Finally, I told my classmates what happened next. "The butterfly found a sunny place to rest," I explained. I used a calm voice for that detail. At the end, I said, "I hope our garden helps more butterflies." I slowed down for the last sentence and looked at my listeners. My report had a beginning, middle, and ending, so the story was easy to follow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which three words tell the listener the order of the report?

2. What voice level did the speaker use at the beginning, and why?

3. What did the speaker do after saying, "We raised these butterflies from tiny caterpillars"?

4. What exact words did the speaker say with a little excitement?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence recount of a small event. Use First, Next, and Finally, underline one word to emphasize, add a slash where you will pause, and write "classroom voice" at the top. Then tell your recount aloud at a steady pace.

Butterfly Voices

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the words that show the order of the report. Circle each place where the speaker pauses or changes voice, so you can plan a clear, interesting oral report. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which three words tell the listener the order of the report?	**First, Next, and Finally.**
2	What voice level did the speaker use at the beginning, and why?	**A clear classroom voice, so everyone could hear.**
3	What did the speaker do after saying, "We raised these butterflies from tiny caterpillars"?	**The speaker paused.**
4	What exact words did the speaker say with a little excitement?	**"Look closely!"**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Classroom voice First, I _found_ a smooth rock beside the trail. / Next, I washed the rock in a small stream. Finally, I placed it on my shelf at home.

Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text. Accept underlining of First, Next, and Finally. Accept circles around phrases that show pauses or voice changes, including clear classroom voice, paused, little excitement, did not shout, short pause, calm voice, and slowed down.