Make It Stronger

Find ways to make a draft clearer and smoother.

3.W.3.A "With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by revising for quality of ideas, organization, sentence fluency, and word choice."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle three vague words or phrases that could be more exact. Then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the paragraphs to show the order the bean plant events happened.

Bean Garden Draft

(1) Last Friday, our class picked green beans from the garden. The plants were tall, and they had lots of beans. We put the beans in a basket. It was nice to see our work. The green beans grew from small flowers. I think the basket was very big, and it was hard to carry to the classroom.

(2) At the start of spring, we planted bean seeds in cups of soil. First, we made a small hole with a finger. Next, we dropped in one seed and covered it. Then we gave each cup water. The cups sat near a sunny window. This part was good. We waited for the seeds to change.

(3) After several days, tiny shoots pushed through the soil. The shoots were green. They grew. We moved the young plants into the school garden when they had strong stems. Each week, we watered them and pulled weeds nearby. Bees visited the flowers later in the season. That was cool. Soon, long green beans hung from the plants.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which paragraph should come first in the revised draft? Explain why.

2. Combine these two short sentences from paragraph 3 to make one smoother sentence: "The shoots were green. They grew."

3. Rewrite the sentence "This part was good" to tell more clearly what happened in paragraph 2.

4. Which sentence from paragraph 1 would fit better after the sentence about bees in paragraph 3? Explain how moving it improves the draft.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence draft about something you grew or made. Then rewrite it to add one exact detail, replace one vague word, and combine or improve two short sentences. Put a star by each change in your revised draft.

ANSWER KEY

Make It Stronger

GRADE 3 · 3.W.3.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle three vague words or phrases that could be more exact. Then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the paragraphs to show the order the bean plant events happened. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which paragraph should come first in the revised draft? Explain why.	**Paragraph 2 should come first because the class planted and watered the seeds before the shoots grew or beans were picked.**
2	Combine these two short sentences from paragraph 3 to make one smoother sentence: "The shoots were green. They grew."	**The green shoots grew.**
3	Rewrite the sentence "This part was good" to tell more clearly what happened in paragraph 2.	**This part was important because we planted and watered the seeds.**
4	Which sentence from paragraph 1 would fit better after the sentence about bees in paragraph 3? Explain how moving it improves the draft.	**"The green beans grew from small flowers." It keeps the information about flowers and beans together.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Draft: I made a bird feeder. I used a pine cone. It was good. Revised: I made a bird feeder from a pine cone and peanut butter.* I pressed sunflower seeds into the sticky peanut butter.* The feeder gave birds a place to find food outside my window.*

Accept equivalent answers that improve the order, details, word choice, or sentence flow while keeping the passage information accurate. For Part 3, accept any topic if the revised draft clearly shows the three requested kinds of changes.