

Burrs on the Move

Compare a story and an article about spreading seeds.

4.RL.3.B “Compare and contrast details in paired literary and informational nonfiction texts including their treatment of similar themes, topics, and patterns of events.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB In Text 1, write 1, 2, and 3 beside the three sentences that begin with First, Next, and Finally, in that order. In Text 2, write 1, 2, and 3 beside the sentences that begin with When, Later, and The seeds, then compare the two event patterns.

A Prickly Ride

- ① **TEXT 1, LITERARY STORY** Maya hurried along the trail after walking her dog, Pepper. First, she noticed small, round burrs clinging to Pepper’s fur and her sock. “These prickly hitchhikers are hard to remove,” Maya said. She picked off a few burrs and dropped them near a fence. Her brother Leo wondered why the burrs had hooked so tightly onto them.
- ② Next, Leo tugged one burr apart with a twig. Inside were tiny seeds. Maya remembered seeing plants with burrs beside the trail last fall. Finally, the children placed the burrs in a paper bag instead of leaving them on Pepper. They decided to shake the seeds onto bare soil near the fence, where new plants might grow.
- ③ **TEXT 2, INFORMATIONAL ARTICLE** Burdock plants make burrs, dry fruits that hold seeds and are covered with hooked tips. When a burr catches on an animal’s fur or a person’s clothing, the animal or person carries it to another place. Later, the burr may fall off. The seeds can reach soil and grow into new burdock plants. This movement helps the plant spread.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What detail about burrs is similar in both Text 1 and Text 2?

2 How is the later event in Text 1 different from the later event in Text 2?

3 How does Text 1 treat the topic differently from Text 2? Use one detail from each text.

4 Compare the event patterns in both texts. What happens first in each text, and what happens later?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write exactly three sentences comparing the two texts. Tell one shared idea, use one detail from each text, and explain which text helps readers picture an event and which text explains a process.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

In Text 1, write 1, 2, and 3 beside the three sentences that begin with First, Next, and Finally, in that order. In Text 2, write 1, 2, and 3 beside the sentences that begin with When, Later, and The seeds, then compare the two event patterns. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What detail about burrs is similar in both Text 1 and Text 2?	Both texts show burrs catching on fur or clothing and being moved from one place to another.
2	How is the later event in Text 1 different from the later event in Text 2?	In Text 1, Maya and Leo choose to shake seeds onto bare soil. In Text 2, a burr may naturally fall off, and its seeds can reach soil.
3	How does Text 1 treat the topic differently from Text 2? Use one detail from each text.	Text 1 tells about characters, Maya and Leo, discovering and handling burrs. Text 2 explains factual steps in how burdock burrs spread seeds.
4	Compare the event patterns in both texts. What happens first in each text, and what happens later?	First, burrs are shown attached to fur or clothing in both texts. Later, the texts describe seeds reaching or being placed on soil where plants can grow.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both texts show how burrs can help plants spread. Text 1 helps readers picture Maya and Leo finding burrs on Pepper and choosing where to shake the seeds. However, Text 2 explains the usual steps without characters, including a burr falling off and seeds reaching soil.

Accept equivalent comparisons that use accurate details from both texts. For the open response, look for exactly three sentences, a shared idea, one detail from each text, and a clear comparison of the story and article treatments.