

Seeds That Connect

Study how a model text builds and links ideas.

4.W.2 "Organization and Composition Engage in writing as a process to compose well-developed paragraphs. This includes: Providing an introduction that includes a clear topic sentence that connects to the central idea. Developing, selecting..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first sentence and box the last sentence in each paragraph, then circle transition words and bracket prepositional phrases to see how the writer organizes ideas.

The Town Seed Library

- ① Our town's seed library helps neighbors grow food and flowers by sharing packets of seeds. At the library desk, gardeners can choose tomato, bean, or marigold seeds without buying a full packet. The small envelopes make gardening easier for families with limited space or money. By sharing seeds, the program gives many people a chance to begin planting.
- ② First, gardeners read the labels to learn each plant's needs. In a sunny bed, bean plants need support, while lettuce grows best during cool weather. Gardeners can also save water by placing mulch around young plants. These details help people select seeds that match their yards and care for plants successfully through the growing season.
- ③ Finally, the seed library can bring neighbors together. During spring planting days, experienced gardeners show beginners how deeply to plant seeds and how far apart to space them. Later, families may trade extra vegetables or bouquets at a garden table. A seed library does more than lend seeds. It helps a community grow skills, food, and friendships.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What central idea does the first sentence introduce?

2 Name two details from paragraph 2 that help gardeners choose or care for plants.

3 What transition word begins paragraph 2, and what prepositional phrase tells where the bean plants are growing? How do these words help the paragraph?

4 What concluding statement ends the passage, and what idea does it restate?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write one 5-sentence informational paragraph explaining how a group, place, or program helps your school or community. Begin with a clear topic sentence, include two relevant details, use at least two transition words and one prepositional phrase, and end with a concluding statement.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the first sentence and box the last sentence in each paragraph, then circle transition words and bracket prepositional phrases to see how the writer organizes ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What central idea does the first sentence introduce?	The town's seed library helps neighbors grow food and flowers by sharing seeds.
2	Name two details from paragraph 2 that help gardeners choose or care for plants.	Gardeners read labels to learn plant needs, and they can place mulch around young plants to save water.
3	What transition word begins paragraph 2, and what prepositional phrase tells where the bean plants are growing? How do these words help the paragraph?	"First" begins paragraph 2, and "In a sunny bed" tells where the beans grow. "First" signals an early step, and the phrase adds a clear detail.
4	What concluding statement ends the passage, and what idea does it restate?	"It helps a community grow skills, food, and friendships." It restates that the seed library helps neighbors in more ways than sharing seeds.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school recycling team keeps useful materials out of the trash. First, students place rinsed cans and bottles in labeled bins in the cafeteria. After lunch, team members sort the items into paper, plastic, and metal. Later, a truck carries the full bins to a recycling center. The team makes our school cleaner and saves materials for new products.

Accept equivalent statements of the central idea and any accurate details, transitions, or prepositional phrases from the passage. In the student paragraph, look for all required parts and details that clearly support the topic sentence.