Lights Out, Turtles In

Trace how a problem-and-solution text builds its ideas.

5.RI.2.A "Describe the overall organization patterns of texts (e.g., cause/effect, comparison/contrast, problem/solution, description, sequence, and chronological) and how each successive part builds on earlier sections..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline phrases that name the problem and the solution. Circle each transition word or phrase, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the paragraphs to track how the text builds.

Guiding Hatchlings to the Sea

1 On many beaches, baby sea turtles hatch at night. Their eyes are drawn to the brightest horizon, which is usually moonlight reflecting on the ocean. However, lamps from homes and roads can look brighter than the water. As a result, hatchlings may crawl inland, where they can become lost, dehydrated, or injured by vehicles before dawn.

2 To solve this problem, some coastal towns use turtle-friendly lighting. First, they place low, shielded lamps that point downward instead of toward the beach. They also use amber bulbs, because turtles are less attracted to this color than to white light. In addition, volunteers close bright curtains and remind visitors to avoid flashlights near nesting areas.

3 These changes work best when many people take part. For example, a single dark hotel may not help if a nearby parking lot shines brightly. Therefore, towns combine lighting rules with signs, beach patrols, and community lessons. By reducing confusing light across the whole shoreline, communities help more hatchlings reach the ocean and begin their lives there.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the overall organization pattern of this text? Use details from the paragraphs to support your answer.

2. How does paragraph 2 build on paragraph 1?

3. How does paragraph 3 build on the solutions in paragraph 2?

4. Choose two transition words or phrases from the passage. What does each one signal to the reader?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a real problem at school or in your community. Write three short paragraph plans for a problem-and-solution text. Include a transition word or phrase in each plan, and explain in the third plan how the solution would help.

ANSWER KEY

Lights Out, Turtles In

GRADE 5 · 5.RI.2.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline phrases that name the problem and the solution. Circle each transition word or phrase, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the paragraphs to track how the text builds. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the overall organization pattern of this text? Use details from the paragraphs to support your answer.	**Problem and solution. Paragraph 1 explains that artificial lights can lead hatchlings inland, and paragraphs 2 and 3 describe ways communities reduce those lights.**
2	How does paragraph 2 build on paragraph 1?	**Paragraph 1 introduces the danger of bright lights, and paragraph 2 gives specific lighting changes that can solve that danger.**
3	How does paragraph 3 build on the solutions in paragraph 2?	**It explains that the solutions work best when many people use them together, then gives additional community actions and the result for hatchlings.**
4	Choose two transition words or phrases from the passage. What does each one signal to the reader?	**Answers may vary. For example, "First" signals the first solution step, and "Therefore" signals a result or conclusion.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

1. Currently, wind blows loose paper from the playground trash cans. 2. To solve this problem, the school could add lids and ask classes to check bins after recess. 3. As a result, fewer papers would reach storm drains because the lids and checks would keep trash contained.

Accept other accurate organization descriptions that identify the problem followed by solutions and results. For Part 3, look for a clear problem, a workable solution, three connected parts, and transitions that show how the ideas build.