

Phrase Placement Patrol

Spot introductory phrases that attach clearly.

8.LU.1.D "Arrange phrases and clauses within a sentence to improve meaning reader/listener interest, and style in writing."

NAME _____

DATE _____

CLEAR PLACEMENT

The introductory phrase clearly describes the subject that comes next. The reader knows who or what is doing the action.

At sunrise, fishermen launched their boats.

MISPLACED PLACEMENT

The introductory phrase seems to describe the wrong subject. This creates a confusing or illogical meaning.

Searching for a signal, the mountain blocked our phones.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle CLEAR or MISPLACED, then choose two items and explain how the introductory phrase does or does not describe the sentence's subject.

1. After rehearsal, Devon packed the costumes.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

2. Hearing the alarm, the students left the building.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

3. While hiking through the canyon, the waterfall surprised us.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

4. To avoid the rain, Lila carried an umbrella.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

5. After mixing the ingredients, the cake was baked for 30 minutes.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

6. Before entering the classroom, the homework was collected.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

7. At the science fair, Omar explained his model to the judges.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

8. After reading the article, the quiz seemed easier.

CLEAR

MISPLACED

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new CLEAR sentence and one new MISPLACED sentence with introductory phrases.

CLEAR _____

MISPLACED _____

CHALLENGE

Write a MISPLACED sentence with an introductory phrase, then revise it so the phrase clearly describes the subject.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	After rehearsal, Devon packed the costumes.	CLEAR	Devon is the person who was at rehearsal.
2	Hearing the alarm, the students left the building.	CLEAR	The students heard the alarm.
3	While hiking through the canyon, the waterfall surprised us.	MISPLACED	The waterfall cannot hike through the canyon.
4	To avoid the rain, Lila carried an umbrella.	CLEAR	Lila wanted to avoid the rain.
5	After mixing the ingredients, the cake was baked for 30 minutes.	MISPLACED	The cake did not mix the ingredients.
6	Before entering the classroom, the homework was collected.	MISPLACED	The homework did not enter the classroom.
7	At the science fair, Omar explained his model to the judges.	CLEAR	Omar was at the science fair and explained the model.
8	After reading the article, the quiz seemed easier.	MISPLACED	The quiz did not read the article.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CLEAR:** Before the concert began, the musicians tuned their instruments.
- **MISPLACED:** After practicing all week, the recital was performed on Friday.

Challenge: Misplaced: Before reaching the summit, the trail became steep. Revised: Before reaching the summit, the hikers found the trail steep.

Accept clear sentences when the introductory phrase logically describes the subject immediately after the comma. For misplaced sentences, students should identify the subject that incorrectly receives the action or description in the phrase.