Name

Two Versions Write-Up Answer Key

Example Responses (summarized for teachers):

Conversational Version (with "in back of"): After class, everyone hangs out in back of the field to relax. Some students toss a football around while others talk about their day. There's a big tree in back of the benches where people like to sit in the shade. Sometimes the coach stores sports gear in back of the small shed too. It's just a nice place to chill before going home.

Academic Version (with "behind"): After class, students often gather behind the sports field to unwind. Some play casual games, while others rest quietly near the benches. A large tree grows behind the benches, offering shade to anyone sitting there. The coach also stores equipment behind a small shed for easy access. This area provides a calm space for students to relax before leaving school.

Analysis Example: The academic version fits better in a school essay because **behind** sounds formal and the sentence structure is more polished. The conversational version works well for casual storytelling or personal reflection.

Teacher's Guide

• **Skill Focus**: Understanding how **prepositional choice** and **tone** affect writing style and audience formality.

Differentiation Tips:

- o Encourage struggling learners to brainstorm word swaps that make writing sound more formal (e.g., "chill" \rightarrow "relax").
- Have advanced students identify three other informal words to change in their formal rewrite.

• Engagement Ideas:

- Students can read both versions aloud in pairs, then vote on which sounds more essay-ready.
- o Host a mini "tone challenge" where classmates guess whether a paragraph is formal or casual.

• Extension Activity:

 Have students apply the same technique to another prepositional pair (like "near" vs. "close to") in a different writing topic to reinforce tone awareness.

