

Smooth Connections Answer Key

A correct revision should:

- Use transitions (**for example, also, in addition, later, finally, however, meanwhile**, etc.).
- Connect ideas smoothly.
- Reduce choppy or list-like sentences.

Sample Acceptable Revision: The campsite sat beside a wide, calm lake, and tall trees surrounded the area. **In addition**, birds chirped loudly from the branches overhead. **Nearby**, the firepit still held old ashes, showing it had been used earlier. **Meanwhile**, the fresh smell of the air made the whole place feel peaceful. (Any paragraph that improves cohesion and adds transitions is acceptable.)

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Students learn how transitions and cohesive devices strengthen descriptive paragraphs by linking ideas smoothly.
- **Differentiation:**
 - Provide a transition word bank for students who need extra support.
 - Highlight one sentence and have students decide which type of transition fits best.
- **Engagement Tips:**
 - Let students read the original paragraph aloud to hear the choppiness before revising.
 - Have pairs swap paragraphs to compare how they chose to improve cohesion.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Challenge students to rewrite the paragraph using a different mood, such as eerie or energetic.
 - Ask students to write their own choppy paragraph for a classmate to revise.