

Clear It Up Answer Key

Sample clarified revision:

The old train station felt unsettling in the early morning. Sunlight streamed through the cracked skylight, lighting one corner while leaving the rest in shadow. A hollow metallic clang echoed from the far platform, fading as quickly as it came. Travelers rushed across the tiled floor, weaving between benches as they hurried toward their trains. The uneasy atmosphere pushed me to move faster.

(Any student version that replaces unclear words and vague phrases with specific, purposeful description is acceptable.)

Teacher's Guide

- Remind students that clarity comes from **specificity**. Words like weird, somewhere, kind of, and a way should be replaced with precise details.
- Encourage students to underline the unclear phrases before rewriting.
- Provide support through guiding questions: Where was the light coming from? What did the noise sound like? How were the people moving?
- For struggling writers, allow them to revise one sentence at a time and check clarity aloud.
- For advanced students, challenge them to elevate tone and imagery while maintaining precision.
- Allow peer partners to swap passages and identify unclear parts before revising.
- Extension idea: Have students write a short unclear paragraph on purpose, then trade with classmates to revise for clarity.