

## Sharper Steps Answer Key

Answers will vary. A strong response should show:

- **specific materials** (for example, peanut butter, jelly, two slices of whole wheat bread),
- **clear actions** (for example, use a butter knife to spread a thin layer),
- **precision** (for example, cut the sandwich into two triangles).

Example revisions:

1. Gather two slices of bread, a jar of peanut butter, a jar of jelly, and a butter knife.
2. Use the knife to spread a thin layer of peanut butter on one slice of bread and jelly on the other.
3. Press the two slices together with the spreads facing each other.
4. Use the knife to cut the sandwich into two even halves.

### Teacher's Guide

- This worksheet helps students move from **vague** to **precise**, strengthening clarity in how-to and process writing.
- Remind students that good instructions help the reader picture each step clearly.
- For differentiation:
  - Provide a word bank of precise verbs such as **spread, measure, slice, stir, gather**.
  - Allow students who need support to first describe their step verbally before writing.
  - Challenge advanced writers to include measurement details or sequencing words.
- For engagement:
  - Let students act out the vague steps to see why they do not work well, then try their improved versions.
  - Allow partners to trade revised steps and evaluate whether each one is clear enough to follow.
- For extension:
  - Have students revise a full how-to paragraph full of vague steps.
  - Ask students to create two versions: a simple revision and an extra precise revision with added materials and reasoning.