

From Meh to Masterpiece Answer Key

1. Which response sounds more interesting or useful? Why?

Sample Answer: Response B is more interesting and useful because it gives clear, kid-friendly examples ("plastic bottles can become park benches") and explains *how* recycling works, not just that it's important. It sounds like it was written for a real classroom.

2. How does the second prompt's extra detail (like role, audience, or format) change the answer?

Sample Answer: By adding details-like making the AI a *science teacher* and naming a *6th-grade audience*-the second prompt tells the AI to use simpler words and short, clear sentences. The format request ("120 words," "handout") also keeps the answer organized and to the point.

3. What clues tell you that the second response was written for a specific audience?

Sample Answer: The examples and tone show it's for kids: it uses everyday items (bottles, notebooks, park benches) and a friendly "you can do it" voice. There are no big scientific words or long explanations that might confuse younger readers.

4. What kinds of words or examples does Response B include that make it more understandable or fun?

Sample Answer: Response B includes concrete examples ("plastic bottles," "trash bins"), action verbs ("turning," "sorting"), and positive language ("everyone can do"). These make the paragraph more visual and encouraging.

5. What exact words in the strong prompt probably caused those improvements?

Sample Answer: Phrases like "environmental science teacher," "6th-grade classroom handout," "120 words," and "examples kids can relate to" guided the AI to adjust tone, reading level, and structure. Those instructions directly shaped the better response.

6. If you were to write an even better prompt than the "strong" one, what would you add or change?

Sample Answer: I'd ask for a quick call to action or quiz question at the end to make the handout interactive. Example: "End with one question students can answer about recycling in their daily life."