

Memory Shift Answer Key

Flashback moments:

- Tomas remembered playing at a neighborhood picnic two years earlier.
- He recalled buying his first guitar at a yard sale when he was ten.

Chronological order (correct sequence):

1. Tomas bought his first guitar from a yard sale at age ten.
2. Tomas performed nervously at a neighborhood picnic two years earlier.
3. Tomas stood backstage at the talent show.
4. The host announced his name.
5. Tomas walked onto the stage and began playing.

Time Shift Analysis (sample responses):

- An author might use flashbacks to show background that explains a character's experiences or growth.
- The flashbacks show how much Tomas has improved and make his final action of performing on stage more meaningful.

Teacher's Guide

- Review what a **flashback** is and introduce key signal phrases such as *he remembered*, *she thought back*, or *years earlier*.
- For support, provide students with a color coded organizer where present events and past events can be separated visually.
- For advanced learners, ask students to rewrite the entire passage without flashbacks and compare the effect on tone and pacing.
- Encourage engagement by letting students storyboard the events using two sections labeled "present" and "past."
- Extension idea: assign students to write a short passage that includes one flashback and exchange with partners for sequencing practice.