

Small Moments Answer Key

Sample sequence. Student answers will vary.

1. Lucas rubbed his palms against his jeans to dry the sweat.
2. He kept clearing his throat as he read over his notes.
3. His foot tapped quickly against the tile floor.
4. When his name was called, he gripped his paper tight enough to wrinkle it.
5. He stepped forward slowly, eyes darting toward the clock before he began.

Teacher's Guide

- This worksheet teaches students how to replace one vague telling sentence with **five micro-moments** that show emotion through action.
- Emphasize that each moment should be **small, specific, and concrete**, not long or descriptive.
- Model how a single emotion can be broken down into several physical details that build the feeling clearly.

Differentiation Tips

- Provide a list of micro-actions for students who need support, such as tapping fingers, shifting weight, squinting, or glancing away.
- Allow students to brainstorm in pairs before writing.

Engagement Ideas

- Have students act out a five-moment sequence while partners guess the original emotion.
- Turn one example into a comic strip with five panels showing each micro-action.

Extension Ideas

- Challenge students to write a full paragraph using their five moments as the foundation.
- Invite advanced writers to create five contrasting moments showing how two characters respond differently to the same emotion.