

## Smooth Story Steps Answer Key

- first
- meanwhile
- then
- finally

### Correct sequence:

Aiden hurried across the yard (first).

He saw the dog with the spilled bag (meanwhile).

They carried the groceries together (then).

She thanked him (finally).

### Teacher's Guide

- Highlight how **transition words** help readers follow the order of events in a narrative.
- Support students who need help by guiding them to look for **time clues** in each sentence.
- Remind students that transitions like **first**, **then**, **meanwhile**, and **finally** show beginning, middle, and end structure.
- Differentiation ideas:
  - Provide picture cards showing the sequence for visual learners.
  - Offer extra transition options for advanced learners and ask them to explain why each one fits or does not fit.
- Extension ideas:
  - Have students rewrite the passage using completely different transitions.
  - Invite students to write a new four-sentence story that uses all four transition words correctly.