

Name _____

Source Fusion Answer Key

Student responses will vary. A strong paragraph should:

- Clearly state that community gardens strengthen neighborhoods.
- Integrate evidence from **both** sources, not summarize them separately.
- Show connection among ideas such as cooperation, volunteering, reduced waste, or shared resources.

Sample acceptable response: Community gardens strengthen neighborhoods by bringing people together and encouraging shared responsibility. According to a city report, gardens increase volunteer participation by 22 percent and reduce local waste through composting stations. Resident Elena Cruz explained that neighbors who rarely interacted began working together in the garden, and families even shared fresh vegetables during community harvest days. Together, these examples show how community gardens help build a more connected and supportive community.

Teacher's Guide

Purpose of the Skill

- Teaches students to blend multiple sources into a **single, coherent paragraph** rather than summarizing sources separately.
- Strengthens academic writing by building skills in synthesis, paraphrasing, and evidence coordination.
- Prepares students for research writing, argumentative essays, and AP-level expectations.

Teaching Tips

- Model a quick think-aloud showing how to pull one idea from each source and connect them with transitions.
- Remind students to avoid simply listing facts. They must **combine** and **explain** the evidence.
- Encourage use of linking words such as also, similarly, as a result, or this shows that.