Reading and Writing Response Plates: Paired Passage and Lined Answer Practice

Complete worked example / separate answer key

A plate has a 70-word passage about a school garden and three response lines, each 18 cm long. The task is to write a two-sentence summary. A learner writes 12 words on line one, 11 on line two, and 9 on line three. Check the response against the passage and the line convention.

Answer: The response uses 32 words across three lines, which fits the space. Comprehension check: the summary names the garden and one activity from the passage, so it matches. Handwriting check: a sample of ten lowercase letters sits on the baseline and reaches the midline, so the convention is met. The response is acceptable; the next step is to add one specific detail from the passage.

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Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

A plate has a 60-word passage about a lost dog returning home and two response lines, each 16 cm long. The task is to write one sentence stating what happened. A learner writes 14 words on line one and 6 on line two. Is the response within the line budget, and what should be checked next?

Answer: Yes, 20 words fit two lines at about 10 words per line. Next, check that the sentence matches the passage and that sampled letters sit on the baseline with x-height at the midline.

Reason: Two lines at roughly 10 words each hold about 20 words, and 14 plus 6 equals 20. The response fits. Comprehension and the baseline-midline convention are the remaining checks.

Check: Add the words per line (14 + 6 = 20) and compare with the estimated capacity (2 lines x 10 words = 20). Then sample ten letters for baseline and midline.

Task 2

A passage is 100 words and the task asks for a three-sentence explanation. A learner writes only 12 words on one line and stops. Using a hypothetical estimate of 10 words per line, how many more lines would a 30-word response need, and what is the first fix?

Answer: A 30-word response needs about three lines at 10 words per line, so about two more lines beyond the first. The first fix is to plan three to five words before writing and state the main answer in the first sentence.

Reason: 30 words divided by 10 words per line equals 3 lines. The learner used 1 line, so 2 more lines are needed. Planning prevents stopping short.

Check: Divide the target word count by the estimated words per line (30 / 10 = 3) and subtract lines already used (3 - 1 = 2).

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

A learner writes a response in joined cursive. A sample of ten lowercase letters shows eight sitting on the baseline and reaching the midline, and two floating slightly above the baseline. Is the response acceptable under the stated convention, and what is the next step?

Answer: The response is not yet fully acceptable because two sampled letters float above the baseline. The next step is to slow down and place each letter on the baseline, then resample ten letters.

Reason: The convention requires letters to sit on the baseline and x-height to reach the midline. Eight of ten meet it, but two do not, so the sample fails the baseline check.

Check: Count sampled letters meeting both baseline and midline (8 of 10) and require all ten before accepting the handwriting check.

Task 4

A plate uses lines 20 cm long with 9 mm spacing, chosen as hypothetical examples. A learner's sample sentence of 10 words fills one line exactly. The task asks for a 25-word summary. How many lines should the plate provide, and why?

Answer: The plate should provide about three lines, because 25 words divided by 10 words per line equals 2.5 lines, rounded up to 3 to leave a little room.

Reason: At 10 words per line, 25 words need 2.5 lines. Rounding up to 3 gives space to finish the summary without crowding.

Check: Divide the target word count by words per line (25 / 10 = 2.5) and round up to the next whole line (3).

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Worked example, Task 1, Task 2, Task 3, Task 4 / Separate answer sheet: model responses, comprehension notes, handwriting check notes

Answer sheet kept apart from worksheet. Model responses and check notes only; no practice values.

Plate 1 (lost dog, 60 words, two 16 cm lines): Yes, 20 words fit two lines at about 10 words per line. Next, check that the sentence matches the passage and that sampled letters sit on the baseline with x-height at the midline. Reasoning: 14 + 6 = 20; 2 lines x 10 words = 20. Check method: add words per line and compare with capacity, then sample ten letters.

Plate 2 (100-word passage, three-sentence explanation): A 30-word response needs about three lines at 10 words per line, so about two more lines beyond the first. First fix: plan three to five words before writing and state the main answer in the first sentence. Reasoning: 30 / 10 = 3 lines; 3 - 1 = 2 more. Check method: divide target by words per line and subtract lines used.

Plate 3 (joined cursive sample): Not yet fully acceptable because two sampled letters float above the baseline. Next step: slow down and place each letter on the baseline, then resample ten letters. Reasoning: 8 of 10 meet baseline and midline; two do not. Check method: require all ten sampled letters to meet both baseline and midline.

Plate 4 (20 cm lines, 9 mm spacing, 25-word summary): Provide about three lines, because 25 / 10 = 2.5, rounded up to 3 to leave room. Reasoning: 2.5 lines rounds up to 3. Check method: divide target by words per line and round up.

Worked example (70-word garden passage, three 18 cm lines, 12 + 11 + 9 words): 32 words across three lines fits. Comprehension: summary names the garden and one activity, so it matches. Handwriting: ten sampled lowercase letters sit on baseline and reach midline, so convention is met. Response acceptable; next step add one specific detail.

Rubric key: (1) answers task and matches passage; (2) fits lines without crowding; (3) lowercase letters sit on baseline; (4) x-height reaches midline for sampled letters; (5) legible to a reader who has not seen the passage; (6) joined, printed, and mixed styles accepted when baseline and midline rule is met.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Response answers the task directly and matches the passage.
- [ ] Response fits the available lines without crowding or running out of space.
- [ ] Lowercase letters sit on the baseline.
- [ ] X-height reaches the midline for the sampled letters.
- [ ] Writing is legible to a reader who has not seen the passage.
- [ ] Joined, printed, and mixed styles are all accepted when the baseline and midline rule is met.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?