Answering Questions in Complete Sentences
What Does It Mean?

When you are asked a question, it is sometimes appropriate to answer in a **complete sentence**.
What does it mean to answer a question in a **complete sentence**?

- ➤ Answer using the same words used in the question.
- ➤ Avoid one-word answers.
- ➤ Avoid sentence fragments (sentences must include a subject and predicate).

Example 1:

How would you describe Tom's relationship with his mother? (loving)

- ➤ **Complete Sentence**: I would describe Tom's relationship with his mother as loving.
- ➤ **Not** a Complete Sentence: Loving

Example 2:

What does Miles' decision not to gossip about the new student demonstrate about Miles? (willingness to stand alone)

- ➤ **Complete Sentence**: Miles' decision not to gossip about the new student demonstrates his willingness to stand alone.
- ➤ **Not** a Complete Sentence: Willingness to stand alone

Example 3:

Do you agree with Sophie's decision to join the volleyball team? (yes)

- ➤ **Complete Sentence:** Yes, I agree with Sophie's decision to join the volleyball team.
- ➤ **Not** a Complete Sentence: Yes agree.

Example 4:

Why did Olivia fall asleep at the kitchen table? (stayed up late studying for her math test)

- ➤ **Complete Sentence:** Olivia fell asleep at the kitchen table because she stayed up late studying for her math test.
- ➤ **Not** a Complete Sentence: Because of her math test

Your Turn!

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What is the tone of this poem? (joyous)

    _____

    _____

2. What style of writing was used by the author of this passage? (persuasive)

    _____

    _____

3. What three things did Brian do during his summer vacation? (volunteered, joined a soccer
    league, and learned to rollerblade)

    _____

    _____

4. Why do you think Marcus was sick on Monday morning? (ate too much candy at the carnival)

    _____

    _____

5. How can Alexa demonstrate to Anna that she is sorry for what she has done? (offer to pay for
    the broken bicycle)

    _____

    _____

6. What are the names of the two boys who recently moved to Kevin's neighborhood? (Terrence
    and Colby)

    _____

_____

7. What is the theme of the story? (persistence pays off)

_____

_____

8. What two literary devices are used in this poem? (alliteration and rhyme)

_____

_____

9. Do you agree with Maya's decision to return home after the meeting? (no)

_____

_____

10. Do you think Michael's family will move back to San Diego? (yes)

_____

_____

How to Answer Questions
in Complete Sentences

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Answer Key
(Student Responses May Vary)

1. What is the tone of this poem? (joyous)
   The tone of this poem is joyous.

2. What style of writing was used by the author of this passage? (persuasive)
   The author of this passage used a persuasive writing style.

3. What three things did Brian do during his summer vacation? (volunteered at the animal shelter, joined a soccer league, and learned to rollerblade)
   During his summer vacation, Brian volunteered at the animal shelter, joined a soccer league, and learned to rollerblade.

4. Why do you think Marcus was sick on Monday morning? (ate too much candy at the carnival)
   I think Marcus was sick on Monday morning because he ate too much candy at the carnival.

5. How can Alexa demonstrate to Anna that she is sorry for what she has done? (offer to pay for the broken bicycle)
   Alexa can demonstrate to Anna that she is sorry for what she has done by offering to pay for the broken bicycle.

6. What are the names of the two boys who recently moved to Kevin's neighborhood? (Terrence and Colby)
   The names of the two boys who recently moved to Kevin's neighborhood are Terrence and Colby.

7. What is the theme of the story? (persistence pays off)
   The theme of the story is persistence pays off.

8. What two literary devices are used in this poem? (alliteration and rhyme)
   Alliteration and rhyme are the two literary devices used in this poem.

9. Do you agree with Maya's decision to return home after the meeting? (no)
   No, I do not agree with Maya's decision to return home after the meeting.

10. Do you think Michael's family will move back to San Diego? (yes)
    Yes, I think Michael's family will move back to San Diego.