Listen for Evidence

Judge what audio sources can support

10.RL.23 "Use audio sources to obtain useful and credible information to answer a question, solve a problem, or defend a position."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one useful statement from each audio clip, and circle a detail that helps you judge its credibility. Number the clips from most to least useful for deciding what the school should do next.

A Shelter for the West Stop?

1. At fictional Cedar High, students are debating whether to request a covered waiting area at the west bus stop. A student journalist posts three audio clips, identifies their sources, and asks listeners to decide what evidence each clip can provide. In a September interview, tenth grader Maya Ortiz says, "Last Thursday, I counted 18 students standing in the rain after dismissal, and six moved under a nearby store awning." Her account describes one afternoon, not a typical month. Maya recorded the count herself, but the clip does not establish how often rain leaves students without cover.

2. In a second clip, recorded the same week, district facilities manager Leon Park explains that a shelter cannot block the sidewalk and that a site review must happen before anyone promises a location or price. He says a previous shelter at another district stop cost $14,000, including installation, but warns that the west stop could cost more or less. Park oversees school building projects, so he can speak to district procedures and a past expense. He has not inspected this stop yet. His recorded explanation supports a request for a site review, not a firm budget.

3. The third clip is a 30-second radio advertisement for QuickCover Shelters. A cheerful narrator claims, "Our shelters cut student absences by 30 percent!" The ad names no study, school, or time period, and the company would profit from a sale. Its claim could be investigated, but the clip alone cannot show that adding a shelter would change attendance at Cedar High. At the school board meeting next month, members may vote on whether to authorize further investigation, not construction itself. Any speaker who wants to persuade them must decide which audio details justify that first step and which claims require checking.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What evidence from Maya's clip could help explain the need for a shelter? What limit should you mention when using it?

2. Which information in Park's clip could help the board decide what to do next, and why is he a credible source for it?

3. Why should the board avoid using the advertisement's attendance claim as proof that a shelter would improve attendance at Cedar High?

4. Should the board authorize further investigation rather than approve construction now? Defend your position using information from two different clips.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you can record one new audio interview before the vote. Name someone not heard in the three clips, write one specific question for that person, and explain how the answer could help the board make a more informed decision.

ANSWER KEY

Listen for Evidence

GRADE 10 · 10.RL.23

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one useful statement from each audio clip, and circle a detail that helps you judge its credibility. Number the clips from most to least useful for deciding what the school should do next. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What evidence from Maya's clip could help explain the need for a shelter? What limit should you mention when using it?	**Maya counted 18 students in the rain, including six who moved under a store awning. She observed only one afternoon, so the clip does not show how often this happens.**
2	Which information in Park's clip could help the board decide what to do next, and why is he a credible source for it?	**Park says the site needs a review to ensure a shelter would not block the sidewalk. As district facilities manager, he oversees school building projects.**
3	Why should the board avoid using the advertisement's attendance claim as proof that a shelter would improve attendance at Cedar High?	**The ad gives no study, school, or time period for its 30 percent claim. The seller also stands to profit.**
4	Should the board authorize further investigation rather than approve construction now? Defend your position using information from two different clips.	**Yes. Maya's count suggests students may need cover, while Park says a site review is necessary before a location or price can be promised.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would interview the owner of the store beside the stop. I would ask, "How often have students waited under your awning during rainy dismissal this month?" Dated observations could help show whether Maya's rainy afternoon was unusual. I would check the dates against weather records.

Accept other defensible rankings of the clips if students explain usefulness and credibility. For Your Turn, accept a specific new interview question and a clear explanation of how its answer would inform the decision.