Where Should It Grow?

Compare three views on a courtyard tree.

4.LF.30.b "Use evidence to explain information across texts including different perspectives and/or points of view."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the three texts, then underline one detail in each that explains where its writer thinks the tree should go. Number any two details from different texts that you could use together to make a decision.

A Tree for the Courtyard

1. In the school newspaper, Maya wrote about the sunny courtyard. On warm days, students crowd under a narrow roof to read at lunch. A young tree would not make much shade right away, but it could shade a bench as it grows. Maya suggests planting one beside the main walkway, where many students pass. She hopes more students will have a comfortable place to read.

2. In a note to the principal, Mr. Chen, the school caretaker, wrote that he likes the idea of more shade. Still, he thinks the walkway is a poor place for a tree. Roots can push up pavement as a tree grows, making a path uneven. Fallen leaves there could also make cleanup harder. He suggests planting in the open patch near the fence, away from the walkway.

3. In a letter, Ana wrote for the reading club. She agreed that the courtyard needs shade for readers. She noticed that the open patch by the fence is near a quiet bench. Club members could help carry water to a new tree during dry weeks, while an adult checks what it needs. Ana prefers that spot because readers could sit nearby without blocking the busy walkway.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Where do Maya and Mr. Chen each want to plant the tree? Use a detail from each text to explain their different views.

2. Mr. Chen and Ana both suggest the patch near the fence. What different reason does each give for choosing it?

3. What goal do Maya and Ana share? Give one detail from each text that shows it.

4. How does Ana's letter add to the plan in Maya's newspaper piece? Use a detail from each text.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

The principal also wants to know whether a student using a wheelchair could reach the reading spot. Write a short recommendation using evidence from two different texts, and add one question the principal should ask before choosing a spot.

ANSWER KEY

Where Should It Grow?

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.30.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the three texts, then underline one detail in each that explains where its writer thinks the tree should go. Number any two details from different texts that you could use together to make a decision. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Where do Maya and Mr. Chen each want to plant the tree? Use a detail from each text to explain their different views.	**Maya wants the tree beside the main walkway, where many students pass. Mr. Chen wants it near the fence because roots could make the walkway uneven.**
2	Mr. Chen and Ana both suggest the patch near the fence. What different reason does each give for choosing it?	**Mr. Chen wants to keep roots away from the walkway. Ana points out that the patch is near a quiet bench where readers could sit.**
3	What goal do Maya and Ana share? Give one detail from each text that shows it.	**Both want a more comfortable place for students to read. Maya describes students crowding under a narrow roof, and Ana describes a quiet bench near the fence patch.**
4	How does Ana's letter add to the plan in Maya's newspaper piece? Use a detail from each text.	**Maya says a young tree could shade a bench as it grows. Ana adds that club members could carry water to the young tree during dry weeks.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would consider the patch near the fence. Ana says it is close to a quiet bench, which could give readers a place to sit. Mr. Chen says planting away from the walkway could keep roots from making that path uneven. Before choosing the spot, the principal should ask whether there is a smooth route to the bench for a student using a wheelchair.

Accept other recommendations if they use accurate details from two different texts and include a relevant question about reaching the reading spot.