A Case for Shade

Trace how a speaker uses sources to support a suggestion.

4.LF.42.a "Articulate ideas, claims, and perspectives in a logical sequence, presenting information, findings, and credible evidence from multiple sources and modalities to enhance listeners' understanding."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the speaker's main claim, circle one detail from each named source, and number the three paragraphs in the order the speaker presents them. Notice how the evidence leads to a suggestion.

Where Should We Plant a Tree?

1. Should our school plant a tree beside the blacktop? I think we should plant a tree near the play area, because shade can make it more comfortable. First, think about a sunny day at recess. The blacktop feels hot under our shoes, but the ground under the big oak feels cooler. That difference gives us a reason to look for more evidence before we choose a planting spot.

2. Next, I checked two sources. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency explains on its website that trees cool nearby areas by making shade and releasing water into the air. Our school groundskeeper, Ms. Chen, told our class that tree roots need room to grow. Her advice matters because she cares for the trees on our campus. Both sources help us think about where a new tree could go.

3. Finally, our class recorded what we saw during recess: the oak shaded one bench, while the bench by the blacktop stayed in full sun. This observation adds a close look at our school to the website and interview. I suggest planting a tree near the sunny bench, but not right beside the blacktop, so its roots have space. Shade could make that bench a better place to rest.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency support the speaker's claim?

2. Why does the speaker include Ms. Chen's advice when suggesting a planting spot?

3. What does the class observation add that the website and interview do not?

4. How do the three paragraphs build toward the speaker's final suggestion?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Suggest a different way to make the sunny bench more comfortable. In four or five sentences, state your claim, use evidence from two different sources in the passage, and explain how those details support your suggestion.

ANSWER KEY # A Case for Shade

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.42.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the speaker's main claim, circle one detail from each named source, and number the three paragraphs in the order the speaker presents them. Notice how the evidence leads to a suggestion. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency support the speaker's claim?	**It explains that trees cool nearby areas by making shade and releasing water into the air, supporting the claim that a tree could make the play area more comfortable.**
2	Why does the speaker include Ms. Chen's advice when suggesting a planting spot?	**Ms. Chen cares for the school's trees, and her advice about giving roots room supports planting away from the edge of the blacktop.**
3	What does the class observation add that the website and interview do not?	**It shows which bench at their own school is sunny and which is already shaded.**
4	How do the three paragraphs build toward the speaker's final suggestion?	**The speaker states a claim, shares information from two sources, then adds a school observation and uses the evidence to suggest a planting spot.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, I suggest moving the sunny bench under the oak instead of planting another tree. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says trees cool nearby areas by making shade, so the bench could be more comfortable there. Our class saw that the oak already shades one bench, which shows its shade reaches a place where people can sit. Moving the sunny bench into that shade would help students use what is already there.

For Part 1, accept the claim about planting near the play area and details from both the agency website and Ms. Chen's interview. For Part 3, accept other practical suggestions if the response connects evidence from two distinct passage sources to its claim in a logical order.