Trees at Work

Find stated and unstated main ideas in an informational text.

5.LF.22 "Determine the implied and/or explicit main idea in literary and informational texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentences that state the main ideas of paragraphs 1 and 3. Circle two details in paragraph 2 that help you figure out its unstated main idea.

What Street Trees Do

1. Street trees help keep city blocks cooler on hot days. Their leaves block some sunlight before it strikes sidewalks and parked cars. Under a wide maple, a person waiting for the bus may feel relief from the sun. Leaves also release water vapor into the air, which can cool the area nearby. On a street with few trees, the pavement gets more direct sunlight.

2. During a heavy rain, water rushes off roofs and pavement toward storm drains. Near a tree, drops fall onto leaves and branches before reaching the ground. Some rain soaks into the loose soil around the trunk. Roots can help make spaces in the soil where water can move. After a shower, the sidewalk may be dry while the soil under the tree is still damp.

3. Street trees give birds and insects places to live and find food. A robin may build a nest in a high branch, while a beetle hides in the bark. In spring, bees visit the flowers of some trees. Later, birds eat berries or seeds from others. Even a single tree beside a busy road can offer a small stop for animals moving through a neighborhood.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which sentence states the main idea of paragraph 1?

2. What is the unstated main idea of paragraph 2? Give two details that support your answer.

3. Which sentence states the main idea of paragraph 3?

4. What main idea connects all three paragraphs? Use details from two different paragraphs to support it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about a place you know without directly stating your main idea, and underline two details that point to it. Then write a fourth sentence that names the main idea of your description.

ANSWER KEY

Trees at Work

GRADE 5 · 5.LF.22

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentences that state the main ideas of paragraphs 1 and 3. Circle two details in paragraph 2 that help you figure out its unstated main idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which sentence states the main idea of paragraph 1?	**"Street trees help keep city blocks cooler on hot days."**
2	What is the unstated main idea of paragraph 2? Give two details that support your answer.	**Trees help rainwater soak into the ground. Some rain soaks into the soil around the trunk, and roots help make spaces where water can move.**
3	Which sentence states the main idea of paragraph 3?	**"Street trees give birds and insects places to live and find food."**
4	What main idea connects all three paragraphs? Use details from two different paragraphs to support it.	**Street trees help city neighborhoods in several ways. Their leaves help cool sidewalks, and their branches give birds places to nest.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the community library, a child chooses a book about planets. A teen uses a guide to learn how to repair a bicycle. An adult joins a free computer class. The community library helps people of different ages learn.

For paragraph 2, accept main ideas about trees helping rainwater reach or stay in the soil when supported by two passage details. For the final question and Your Turn, accept other accurate main ideas supported by the required details.