Creek Source Check

Read three digital sources before a planned paddle.

7.DL.10 "Assess subject, occasion, audience, purpose, tone, and credibility of various digital sources."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each source name and underline when its post appeared. Put a star beside one detail in each paragraph that helps you judge how useful that source is for planning the paddle.

Can the Club Launch?

1. On October 16, heavy rain swelled Pine Creek, just before a student club's October 18 paddle. On October 17, the city parks department posted an update on its official website: "The south launch is closed while crews inspect it. Check this page for reopening news." The page lists a city phone number and names the parks employee who wrote the update. It does not say whether the entire creek is unsafe. Club members want to know if they can launch at their usual spot.

2. An August 5 video from PaddlePop, a creator who sells kayak gear, shows people floating past the south launch on a sunny day. Its caption says, "Smooth water, zero worries! Grab my favorite paddle with the link below." The video has quick cuts, bright music, and a link to buy the paddle. It shows what the creek looked like on one day, but it was made before the October storm. No water measurements or inspection results appear in the caption.

3. On October 17, the Pine Creek Paddlers club posted in its public group: "At noon, we saw fast water near the north bridge. We turned back rather than launch there." The post names the two club members who made the trip and gives the place and time. A reply asks whether anyone has checked the south launch, but no one has answered yet. The student club now has three posts to weigh before choosing what to do on October 18.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What event led to the city parks update? Who needs its information, and what does the update want readers to do?

2. What tone does PaddlePop's video use? Explain why it is not strong evidence about the creek on October 18.

3. For a decision about the south launch, which is more useful, the city update or the paddlers' post? Explain using where each source got its information.

4. Who is likely to read the Pine Creek Paddlers post, and what tone does the post use? Give one clue for each answer.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a fourth digital post about Pine Creek appears on October 18. In four or five sentences, invent its author and claim, then assess its subject, occasion, audience, purpose, and tone. Name two details you would check before trusting it.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 7 · 7.DL.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each source name and underline when its post appeared. Put a star beside one detail in each paragraph that helps you judge how useful that source is for planning the paddle. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What event led to the city parks update? Who needs its information, and what does the update want readers to do?	**Heavy rain swelled the creek before the planned paddle. Paddlers and other park visitors need the update. It tells them the south launch is closed and to check the page for reopening news.**
2	What tone does PaddlePop's video use? Explain why it is not strong evidence about the creek on October 18.	**Its caption, quick cuts, and bright music create an excited, carefree tone. The video predates the storm and provides no current measurements or inspection results.**
3	For a decision about the south launch, which is more useful, the city update or the paddlers' post? Explain using where each source got its information.	**The city update is more useful for the south launch because the parks department reports that specific launch is closed for inspection. The paddlers report what they saw firsthand, but only near the north bridge.**
4	Who is likely to read the Pine Creek Paddlers post, and what tone does the post use? Give one clue for each answer.	**Other paddlers are likely readers because it appears in a paddling club's public group. Its tone is cautious: the members say they turned back after seeing fast water.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On October 18, a local boat rental shop posts that the south launch has reopened. Its subject is creek access, and it appears after the storm, on the day of the club's planned paddle. The shop addresses possible renters and tries to persuade them to book a boat, using an upbeat tone. I would check whether the city has announced a reopening and whether the shop gives a time for its claim. The shop's interest in rentals makes those checks important.

Accept supported inferences about audience and tone. For the comparison, students should distinguish a current official notice about the south launch from a firsthand report about a different location.