Listen for Evidence

A school meeting tests which claims are useful and trustworthy.

7.RL.25 "Use active listening to acquire information and assess its relevance and credibility."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the meeting transcript as if you were listening to the speakers. Underline two claims that could help answer Maya's question, and circle words that reveal each claim's source or limit.

A Station by the Gym?

1 At a school planning meeting, Maya asks, "Should we install a water refill station beside the gym?" Mr. Chen, the custodian, replies, "During basketball practice last Tuesday, I counted 34 students waiting at the one fountain outside the cafeteria. I wrote the number on my work sheet." Maya repeats, "So 34 students waited at that fountain on one practice day, not every day?" "Exactly," says Mr. Chen. He adds that the cafeteria fountain is down the hall from the gym, but he has not timed the walk.

2 Leo jumps in. "My cousin says every school with a refill station saves hundreds of dollars." Maya asks where the number came from. "I heard it at dinner," Leo admits. "My cousin might have been talking about another school." Then Ms. Patel, the athletic director, says, "I checked the team's practice schedule. Five teams use the gym after school on Tuesdays, but I did not count how many players bring bottles." Maya notes that the schedule confirms gym use, not the number of students who would use a station.

3 Mr. Chen adds, "Our district facilities office sent me a written estimate of $2,400 for installation near the gym. That does not include yearly filter costs." Leo says, "I still think we should get one because the blue ones look cool." Maya replies, "Color won't tell us whether a station is worth the cost." She asks Mr. Chen to bring the estimate to the next meeting and asks Ms. Patel whether she can count bottles at two practices. The group agrees to wait for those details before making a recommendation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which speaker offers a useful clue that a station near the gym might help? What limit does Maya catch?

2. How does Maya's question change how you should use Leo's claim about saving money?

3. What does Ms. Patel's schedule confirm, and what can it not show about the need for a station?

4. Which cost claim has a stronger source than Leo's savings claim? What cost does it leave out?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you join the next meeting. In four sentences, ask two specific questions about missing information, explain how you would check one answer's credibility, and tell how the answers could affect your recommendation.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 7 · 7.RL.25

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the meeting transcript as if you were listening to the speakers. Underline two claims that could help answer Maya's question, and circle words that reveal each claim's source or limit. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which speaker offers a useful clue that a station near the gym might help? What limit does Maya catch?	**Mr. Chen counted 34 students waiting at a fountain down the hall from the gym, but the count was from only one practice day.**
2	How does Maya's question change how you should use Leo's claim about saving money?	**Leo heard the claim from his cousin at dinner and cannot confirm which school it concerns, so it is not reliable evidence of savings for this school.**
3	What does Ms. Patel's schedule confirm, and what can it not show about the need for a station?	**It confirms that five teams use the gym after school on Tuesdays, but it does not show how many players bring bottles or would use a station.**
4	Which cost claim has a stronger source than Leo's savings claim? What cost does it leave out?	**Mr. Chen's $2,400 installation estimate came in writing from the district facilities office. It leaves out yearly filter costs.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would ask Ms. Patel how many players refill bottles during two practices and whether she recorded the counts. I would ask Mr. Chen what the filters cost each year and how often they need replacement. I would check his answer against a current price list from the district facilities office. If many players need water and the full cost fits the budget, I would recommend the station.

Accept different relevant claims in Part 1 if students mark a source or limit for each. For Part 3, look for two questions about missing information, a specific credibility check, and a recommendation tied to possible answers.