# How Details Work

Explore how writers explain ways to reduce city heat.

**8.CL.1** "Analyze how informational and graphic text elements, including allusions, point of view, purpose, comparisons, categories, and figurative, connotative, and technical word meanings, develop central and supporting ideas."

NAME _____ DATE _____

**COMPARISON**

A comparison shows how two things are alike or different. It helps readers understand why a difference matters.

A scooter travels faster than a skateboard.

**CATEGORY**

A category names a group and gives examples that belong in it. It helps readers see what kinds of things are being discussed.

Musical instruments include flutes and tambourines.

## 1 SORT

8 items

For each line, circle COMPARE or GROUP, then choose two lines and explain which words helped you sort each one.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1.** | A light roof reflects more sunlight than a dark roof. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **2.** | Sources of shade include trees and awnings. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **3.** | Places that need shade include bus stops and playgrounds. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **4.** | A tree-lined street is cooler than a street with no trees. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **5.** | Reflective surfaces include pale roofs and light sidewalks. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **6.** | A covered bus stop feels cooler than a stop in full sun. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **7.** | A shaded playground is cooler than an unshaded playground. | COMPARE GROUP |
| **8.** | Ways to cool a roof include adding plants and using white paint. | COMPARE GROUP |

## 2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

**ITEM #** _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

**ITEM #** _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

## 3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new COMPARE sentence and one new GROUP sentence about ways to keep cities cool.

**COMPARE** _____

**GROUP** _____

**CHALLENGE**

Choose one of your sentences and explain in two sentences how it helps develop the idea that city design can reduce heat.

**ANSWER KEY**

# How Details Work

**GRADE 8 · 8.CL.1**

## PART 1 · SORT

| # | ITEM | CATEGORY | WHY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | A light roof reflects more sunlight than a dark roof. | **COMPARE** | The sentence contrasts how much sunlight two roofs reflect. |
| 2 | Sources of shade include trees and awnings. | **GROUP** | Trees and awnings are examples in the named group, sources of shade. |
| 3 | Places that need shade include bus stops and playgrounds. | **GROUP** | Bus stops and playgrounds are examples of places that need shade. |
| 4 | A tree-lined street is cooler than a street with no trees. | **COMPARE** | The sentence contrasts the temperatures of two kinds of streets. |
| 5 | Reflective surfaces include pale roofs and light sidewalks. | **GROUP** | Pale roofs and light sidewalks are examples of reflective surfaces. |
| 6 | A covered bus stop feels cooler than a stop in full sun. | **COMPARE** | The sentence contrasts a covered stop with one in full sun. |
| 7 | A shaded playground is cooler than an unshaded playground. | **COMPARE** | The sentence contrasts shaded and unshaded playgrounds. |
| 8 | Ways to cool a roof include adding plants and using white paint. | **GROUP** | Adding plants and using white paint are examples of ways to cool a roof. |

## PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

## PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **COMPARE**: A courtyard with a canopy stays cooler than a courtyard in direct sun.
- **GROUP**: Cooling features at a transit station include covered seats and drinking fountains.

**Challenge:** My comparison shows that a courtyard with a canopy stays cooler than a courtyard in direct sun. This difference shows how adding shade can reduce heat in a city.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a contrast between two things or a named group followed by examples. Students may choose any two numbered items.