Listen Between Lines

Read an audio transcript and evaluate the message behind it.

9.DL.13 "Interpret a digital audio source to determine its subject, occasion, audience, purpose, tone, and credibility."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that reveal when this update was made and who might hear it, circle two words or sound cues that shape its tone, and number two claims or sources you would check to judge its credibility.

Saturday at Pine Street

1. [Return slot clacks.] This is Maya Chen for the Eastbank High student news feed. It is Monday afternoon, one day before the Eastbank City Council votes on a plan to reduce Saturday hours at the Pine Street Library. The library is a ten-minute walk from our school, and its tables fill up after soccer games and weekend shifts. I am recording this from the library entrance, where the return slot keeps clacking behind me. If you use this place, the vote is not just a line on a meeting agenda. It could change where you spend your Saturday.

2. [Page turns.] The council proposal posted on the city website would cut Saturday hours from six to three, closing at noon instead of three. I checked the posted proposal this morning, but council members have not voted yet. Last Saturday, I asked fourteen students near the entrance when they visit. Ten said they come after noon. That quick count tells us what those students said, not what every library user needs. Ms. Ortiz, a library assistant, told me that some teens stop in after morning practices. I did not ask her to speak for the whole staff.

3. [Voice steadies.] I know a shorter schedule might save money; the council's proposal does not include a cost estimate. Still, losing the afternoon would leave fewer quiet hours for people who cannot come in the morning. If you live in Eastbank, you can speak during public comment at Tuesday's council meeting, or send a message through the city website before the vote. Ask what the savings would be, and tell members when you actually use the library. This is Maya Chen, ending today's student news update. [Footsteps fade.]

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main subject of the audio update, and what upcoming event makes it timely?

2. Who is the update mainly for, and what does Maya want listeners to do?

3. How would you describe Maya's tone? Support your answer with one spoken phrase or sound cue.

4. Which detail makes Maya's report more credible, and which detail limits what her evidence can prove?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan a 45-second audio update about a proposed change to your school's lunch period. In five sentences, state its subject, occasion, audience, and purpose; describe its tone using a sound or spoken phrase you would include; and name a source listeners could check.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 9 · 9.DL.13

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that reveal when this update was made and who might hear it, circle two words or sound cues that shape its tone, and number two claims or sources you would check to judge its credibility. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main subject of the audio update, and what upcoming event makes it timely?	**The update concerns a proposal to reduce Saturday hours at the Pine Street Library. The city council will vote on it the next day.**
2	Who is the update mainly for, and what does Maya want listeners to do?	**It is mainly for Eastbank High students and other local listeners who use the library. Maya wants them to ask about the savings and tell council members when they use the library.**
3	How would you describe Maya's tone? Support your answer with one spoken phrase or sound cue.	**Her tone is concerned but measured. She says the vote could change where listeners spend Saturday, yet acknowledges that shorter hours might save money.**
4	Which detail makes Maya's report more credible, and which detail limits what her evidence can prove?	**She identifies the council proposal on the city website as a source for the proposed hours. Her count of fourteen students near one entrance cannot show what all library users need.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My audio update would explain a proposal to move lunch ten minutes earlier. I would release it on the student news feed the day before the student council discusses the proposal, for students who use the cafeteria. My purpose would be to help them prepare questions rather than tell them how to vote. A calm voice and the phrase "Here is what we know so far" would keep the tone measured. I would cite the principal's posted draft schedule and ask listeners to check it for the proposed time.

Accept other supported tone descriptions and reasonable interpretations of the intended audience. For Part 3, look for all six elements and a source relevant to the student's invented claim.