Same Goal, New Audience

Notice how a speaker changes language to fit each listener.

9.LL.20 "Adapt speech to purpose and audience in a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English conventions as indicated or appropriate."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one phrase in each speech that fits its audience, and circle one word or phrase in each that shows how formal the speech is.

A Place to Read Outside

1. At a lunch table, Maya asks her classmates to help turn a bare corner of the schoolyard into a shaded reading spot. She says, "You know that patch by the gym where we roast during lunch? Imagine a couple of trees and a bench there. We could read outside without squinting, and the next group of students would get to use it, too. I'm collecting ideas before Friday, so tell me what would actually make you hang out there. If we show that lots of us want it, we have a better shot at making it happen."

2. Later, Maya meets with Principal Chen, who must decide whether to support the proposal. She says, "Thank you for meeting with me. Students have suggested adding two trees and a bench to the unused area beside the gym. Shade would make the space more comfortable at lunch, and the bench could provide a place to read. I would like permission to survey students and staff before we submit a final plan. May I also ask the facilities team to identify planting sites that will not block walkways? Their guidance would help us prepare a practical proposal for your review."

3. On Saturday, Maya speaks at a neighborhood garden club meeting. She says, "Good morning. Our school is considering a shaded reading space beside the gym, and your group has experience caring for young trees. Would any members be willing to advise us on tree care or help with a planting day if the plan is approved? We can provide the site information once the facilities team has reviewed it. Your knowledge could help us choose a plan that students can maintain over time. Please speak with me after the meeting if you would like to hear more about the project."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Maya tells classmates they "roast during lunch." Why does that phrase fit her audience better than it would fit her meeting with Principal Chen?

2. What specific request does Maya make of Principal Chen? Quote a phrase that makes the request respectful.

3. Compare Maya's requests to her classmates and the garden club. How does each request fit what that audience can offer?

4. Maya says the garden club could help with a planting day "if the plan is approved." Why is that condition important for this audience?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

At a public library youth advisory meeting, propose a quiet study corner for teens. Write a four-sentence speech that uses formal English, explains one benefit to teens, and makes one specific, respectful request to library staff.

ANSWER KEY

Same Goal, New Audience

GRADE 9 · 9.LL.20

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one phrase in each speech that fits its audience, and circle one word or phrase in each that shows how formal the speech is. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Maya tells classmates they "roast during lunch." Why does that phrase fit her audience better than it would fit her meeting with Principal Chen?	**The casual phrase describes a shared student experience. With Principal Chen, Maya uses more formal language about comfort at lunch.**
2	What specific request does Maya make of Principal Chen? Quote a phrase that makes the request respectful.	**She asks for permission to survey students and staff. "I would like permission" makes the request respectful. Also accept her request to consult the facilities team with "May I also ask."**
3	Compare Maya's requests to her classmates and the garden club. How does each request fit what that audience can offer?	**She asks classmates for ideas about a space they would use. She asks garden club members for advice on tree care or help with planting because they have relevant experience.**
4	Maya says the garden club could help with a planting day "if the plan is approved." Why is that condition important for this audience?	**It makes clear that the project is not yet approved, so Maya does not promise volunteers a planting day that may not happen.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Thank you for inviting teens to share ideas for the library. A quiet study corner would give students a place to concentrate on homework after school. Could library staff consider setting aside two tables in an area away from the main entrance? I would be glad to help gather feedback from teens about how they might use the space.

Accept other passage-supported explanations of how Maya adjusts her requests and level of formality. For Part 3, look for four sentences, formal English, a benefit to teens, and a specific, respectful request to library staff.