Crossing Gate Decision

Listen to three reports, then weigh the evidence behind a safety decision.

9.RL.23 "Use audio sources to obtain useful and credible information to answer a question, solve a problem, or defend a position."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Listen as your teacher reads the three audio reports aloud before reading their printed transcripts, then underline one useful detail in each report, circle a clue about the speaker's knowledge, and number any limits on the evidence.

Where Should the Guard Stand?

1. Audio report 1, Ms. Chen, school transportation coordinator, speaking at a community meeting: "Our team counted students crossing at both gates on ten dry school mornings in October. From 7:30 to 8:00, an average of 82 students used the east gate and 47 used the north gate. Observers recorded 11 times at the east gate and 3 at the north gate when a driver or student stopped suddenly to avoid contact. We call those near misses, not crashes. The east gate has no crossing guard; the north gate has one. These counts describe those mornings only. We have not counted rainy days or afternoons."

2. Audio report 2, Mr. Ortiz, city traffic engineer, in a recorded phone interview: "I inspected both gates last Tuesday at 7:45 a.m. Cars turning beside the east gate can block a student's view of approaching traffic. At the north gate, the current guard helps students wait for a gap. Moving that guard could create a new risk there. My inspection lasted twenty minutes, so it cannot establish how often either situation occurs. Before changing staffing, I would compare the coordinator's counts with a second set of observations, including wet mornings and afternoons. The school needs to know what happens at both gates, not just the one that concerns us most."

3. Audio report 3, Riley, a ninth grader, speaking on a school podcast: "My friend and I cross at the east gate every day. Last week, a turning car rolled forward while we were stepping into the crosswalk, and we jumped back. I think a guard should stand there tomorrow, even if the north gate loses its guard. I have never crossed at the north gate, so I cannot say what happens there. My experience shows why I worry about the east gate, but one close call cannot tell us which gate needs a guard more. I did not record the car's plate number or report the incident."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which audio report gives the strongest numerical evidence that the east gate may need attention? Cite the numbers that support your choice.

2. Which speaker gives a reason not to move the north-gate guard immediately? Explain why that speaker can assess the issue and name a limit of the evidence.

3. What useful information does Riley's audio report provide, and why is it not enough to decide where the only guard should stand?

4. What further observations does Mr. Ortiz recommend, and which gap in Ms. Chen's evidence would they address?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

The school can pay for a second guard at the east gate for a two-week trial, or move the north-gate guard to the east gate immediately. In 4 to 5 sentences, recommend one plan, use evidence from at least two audio reports, and explain one limit on the evidence that affects your decision.

ANSWER KEY

Crossing Gate Decision

GRADE 9 · 9.RL.23

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Listen as your teacher reads the three audio reports aloud before reading their printed transcripts, then underline one useful detail in each report, circle a clue about the speaker's knowledge, and number any limits on the evidence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which audio report gives the strongest numerical evidence that the east gate may need attention? Cite the numbers that support your choice.	**Ms. Chen's report: an average of 82 students crossed at the east gate versus 47 at the north gate, and observers recorded 11 near misses at the east gate versus 3 at the north gate.**
2	Which speaker gives a reason not to move the north-gate guard immediately? Explain why that speaker can assess the issue and name a limit of the evidence.	**Mr. Ortiz, a traffic engineer who inspected both gates, says the north-gate guard helps students wait for a gap, so moving the guard could create a risk. His inspection lasted only twenty minutes.**
3	What useful information does Riley's audio report provide, and why is it not enough to decide where the only guard should stand?	**Riley gives a firsthand account of a close call at the east gate. One incident cannot establish which gate needs the guard more, and Riley has never crossed at the north gate.**
4	What further observations does Mr. Ortiz recommend, and which gap in Ms. Chen's evidence would they address?	**He recommends a second set of observations, including wet mornings and afternoons. Ms. Chen's team observed only dry mornings.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I recommend paying for a second guard at the east gate for a two-week trial rather than moving the north-gate guard. In Ms. Chen's audio report, observers recorded 11 near misses at the east gate and 3 at the north gate on ten dry mornings. Mr. Ortiz warns that moving the north-gate guard could create a new risk for students there. Because Chen's team did not observe rainy days or afternoons, the school should collect more observations at both gates during the trial before making a permanent decision.

Accept a recommendation for either plan if it accurately uses evidence from at least two reports and explains a relevant limitation. The near-miss counts describe observed events on ten dry mornings, not crashes or a proven long-term pattern.