When Heat Crosses Borders

Trace how a global issue affects daily life and weigh a possible response.

SS24.CWI.12 "Research a current world issue or conflict and present information regarding its effects on the quality of life for individuals, groups, or countries. 12a Construct a possible solution to a global issue or conflict..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two ways extreme heat affects quality of life. Circle the two main actions, shared heat warnings and public cooling rooms, then number these implementation steps where they appear in the passage: forecast sharing (1), local alerts (2), and opening cooling rooms (3).

A Plan for Dangerous Heat

1 During an extreme heat wave, a city street may remain dangerous long after sunset because pavement and buildings release stored heat. The World Meteorological Organization reported in 2025 that 2024 was the warmest year in its 175-year observational record. One hot year does not mean every place has the same weather, but rising global temperatures increase the risk of dangerous heat. Outdoor workers can lose wages when work must stop. Older adults and people with heart disease face greater health risks. Families without affordable air conditioning may have no safe place to cool down.

2 Heat crosses borders, so a possible solution pairs shared heat warnings with public cooling rooms. First, national weather agencies share forecasts and agree on thresholds for dangerous heat. Second, local health departments use those forecasts to send clear alerts by text message and radio, including advice about water and rest. Third, cities open libraries or other public buildings as cooling rooms during the hottest hours and make them reachable by bus. This plan links an international action to local services. Its aim is not to stop heat waves, but to help people avoid injury and continue essential routines.

3 Warnings give families time to change plans, while cooling rooms offer relief to people who cannot cool their homes. Yet messages may not reach residents without phones or those who do not understand the language used. Radio alerts in multiple languages can reduce that gap. Cooling rooms require electricity, staff, and transport, costs that cities or aid agencies must cover. If alerts tell outdoor workers to stop without paid leave, those workers may still have to choose between income and safety. Governments could negotiate temporary wage protections, but employers and public budgets would bear added costs.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does extreme heat affect quality of life for two different groups named in the passage?

2. How do national weather agencies, local health departments, and cities each help put the proposed solution into action?

3. What is one benefit and one cost of opening public cooling rooms?

4. Why might a heat alert fail to protect an outdoor worker's quality of life? Describe the passage's possible response and its cost.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Research a current world issue other than extreme heat using a credible source published or updated since 2025. In one paragraph, give the source's title, publisher, and date; report one finding and its effect on a group's quality of life; then propose a solution with two implementation steps, one benefit, and one cost.

ANSWER KEY

When Heat Crosses Borders

HIGH SCHOOL · SS24.CWI.12

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two ways extreme heat affects quality of life. Circle the two main actions, shared heat warnings and public cooling rooms, then number these implementation steps where they appear in the passage: forecast sharing (1), local alerts (2), and opening cooling rooms (3). Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does extreme heat affect quality of life for two different groups named in the passage?	**Outdoor workers may lose wages when work stops. Older adults face greater health risks.**
2	How do national weather agencies, local health departments, and cities each help put the proposed solution into action?	**National agencies share forecasts and set heat thresholds. Health departments send alerts based on the forecasts. Cities open cooling rooms.**
3	What is one benefit and one cost of opening public cooling rooms?	**They give people who cannot cool their homes a place to find relief. They require spending on electricity, staff, and transport.**
4	Why might a heat alert fail to protect an outdoor worker's quality of life? Describe the passage's possible response and its cost.	**Without paid leave, a worker may have to choose between wages and safety. Temporary wage protections could help, but they add costs for employers and public budgets.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Food Security Information Network's *Global Report on Food Crises 2025* (May 2025) reports that more than 295 million people in 53 countries and territories faced high levels of acute food insecurity in 2024. Families may skip meals, harming their health. International donors could fund locally purchased school lunches. First, education agencies would identify schools with the greatest need. Next, local suppliers would deliver meals under food-safety checks. Children would receive regular meals, which could support their health and learning. Donors would pay for food, transport, and inspections.

Accept other passage-supported effects, benefits, and costs in Part 2. For Part 3, check that the student identifies a verifiable, recent source and connects its finding to an affected group, a feasible solution, implementation steps, a benefit, and a cost.