

Evidence With Purpose

Evaluate sources, then blend evidence into a focused draft.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.8 "Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each search tool, circle each source strength or limitation, and number the two citation examples to trace how Maya selects and credits evidence.

Researching City Heat

- ① For a report on extreme heat in cities, Maya begins with an advanced search: site:.gov "urban heat island" filetype:pdf. The results lead her to a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report and a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage. She also searches a library database for peer-reviewed studies about tree canopy. Quotation marks around "urban heat island" keep related words together, while site: and filetype: narrow results to useful, authoritative materials. She records each source's author, date, publisher, and web address before reading closely.
- ② The EPA report is strong for explaining how pavement and buildings absorb and release heat because it is produced by a federal environmental agency and includes technical detail. Its national scope, however, cannot show which blocks in Maya's city lack shade. A local planning department map can supply that detail, but Maya checks its date and methods because local maps may be incomplete. The peer-reviewed study offers tested evidence about tree canopy, yet its results may not apply exactly to every climate or neighborhood.
- ③ In her draft, Maya does not stack quotations. She paraphrases the EPA's explanation, then uses the local map only where it identifies a shaded-area gap. This choice keeps the claim moving and prevents one source from carrying the whole argument. After checking her notes against the originals, she cites ideas in MLA style: (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) and (City Planning Department). A citation credits a source, but accurate paraphrasing also requires changing the wording and sentence structure, not merely replacing a few words.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which advanced search features does Maya use, and what does each feature help her do?

2 What limitation makes the EPA report less useful for identifying blocks in Maya's city that lack shade?

3 Which source gives tested evidence about tree canopy, and what limitation does Maya note?

4 Name two actions Maya takes to avoid plagiarism or overreliance on one source.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write 60-75 words for a plan to research which city neighborhoods need more shade. Include an advanced search, two sources from the passage with one strength and one limitation, and one paraphrased, integrated claim with an MLA parenthetical citation.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each search tool, circle each source strength or limitation, and number the two citation examples to trace how Maya selects and credits evidence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which advanced search features does Maya use, and what does each feature help her do?	Quotation marks keep the phrase together. site: and filetype: narrow results to authoritative, useful materials.
2	What limitation makes the EPA report less useful for identifying blocks in Maya's city that lack shade?	Its national scope cannot show which specific local blocks lack shade.
3	Which source gives tested evidence about tree canopy, and what limitation does Maya note?	The peer-reviewed study gives tested evidence, but its findings may not apply exactly to every climate or neighborhood.
4	Name two actions Maya takes to avoid plagiarism or overreliance on one source.	She paraphrases instead of stacking quotations, uses sources selectively, checks notes against originals, changes wording and sentence structure, and cites sources.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Question: Which neighborhoods need more shade? I would search site:.gov "urban heat island" map, then compare a city planning map with an EPA report. The map identifies local gaps but may be incomplete, while the EPA explains heat patterns nationally. In my draft, I would write: Pavement and buildings can hold and release heat, so the city should investigate unshaded blocks (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).

Accept equivalent descriptions of the search tools, source strengths, and limitations when they match the passage. For the open response, check for all required elements, accurate paraphrasing, selective use of two sources, and a workable MLA-style parenthetical citation.