

Shade for Recess

Read a model opinion and trace its support.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1 "Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's main opinion in the first paragraph, circle each reason or fact that supports it, and number the linking words that connect the ideas. This will show how the writer builds support for an opinion.

A Shade Sail for Our School

- ① Our school should add a shade sail over the playground benches. At lunch, many students sit there to eat, read, or talk. On sunny days, the benches can feel too hot, and students may choose to stand instead. A shade sail is a strong piece of fabric stretched above an area. It would give students a cooler place to use.
- ② First, shade can help protect skin from too much sunlight. The American Academy of Dermatology says shade is one way to reduce exposure to ultraviolet, or UV, rays. Although sunscreen and hats are useful, students cannot always bring them outside. A sail would provide shade every school day, including during recess and outdoor class activities.
- ③ Also, a shade sail could make the bench area more welcoming. Students who need a quiet spot could sit outside without squinting into bright light. The sail would not block the whole playground, so children could still play in the sun if they chose. For these reasons, the school should ask families and community groups to help pay for a shade sail.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What opinion does the writer state in the first paragraph?

2 What is one reason the writer gives for adding a shade sail?

3 What fact or information supports the writer's reason about sunlight?

4 How does the writer conclude the opinion piece?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-paragraph opinion piece about one change your school should make. State your opinion in the first paragraph, give at least two reasons with supporting information in the middle paragraph, and end by restating your opinion or suggesting an action.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's main opinion in the first paragraph, circle each reason or fact that supports it, and number the linking words that connect the ideas. This will show how the writer builds support for an opinion. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What opinion does the writer state in the first paragraph?	The school should add a shade sail over the playground benches.
2	What is one reason the writer gives for adding a shade sail?	A shade sail can help protect students' skin from too much sunlight.
3	What fact or information supports the writer's reason about sunlight?	The American Academy of Dermatology says shade is one way to reduce exposure to UV rays.
4	How does the writer conclude the opinion piece?	The writer says the school should ask families and community groups to help pay for a shade sail.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should place clear recycling labels on every cafeteria bin. Right now, students may not know where to put paper, plastic bottles, or food scraps. First, labels with pictures would help students sort items quickly. Recycling keeps useful materials out of trash when they can be made into new products. Also, fewer mixed items could make it easier for adults to collect the bins. For these reasons, clear labels would be a practical school change. The principal could ask the student council to help design labels that are easy to read.

Accept equivalent statements of the writer's opinion, reasons, supporting information, and conclusion. For the open response, look for a clear opinion, at least two relevant reasons supported by information, linking words, and a concluding statement.