Closing the Canopy

Study how a final paragraph brings an explanation to a clear close.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2f "Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the paragraph that brings the explanation to a close. Circle two details in that paragraph that connect back to ideas explained earlier.

Trees That Cool a City

1 On hot summer days, city blocks with few trees can feel much warmer than nearby parks. Trees cool streets in several ways. Their leaves cast shade on sidewalks, buildings, and parked cars, so these surfaces absorb less sunlight. Trees also release water vapor through their leaves. As the water changes from liquid to gas, it removes some heat from the air. This process helps explain why a shaded bus stop can feel more comfortable than one surrounded by concrete.

2 City planners can increase cooling by protecting mature trees and planting new ones where people walk and wait. Young trees need water and care, but their benefits grow as their canopies spread. Tree roots can also help rainwater soak into soil instead of rushing across pavement. In neighborhoods with limited green space, a row of street trees may provide shade near homes, schools, and stores. These changes do not replace the need to reduce heat-trapping pollution, yet they can make daily outdoor spaces safer during heat waves.

3 Trees are not a complete answer to city heat, but they are a practical part of a larger plan. By shading hard surfaces, cooling the air, and helping manage rainwater, they improve places people use every day. Protecting existing trees and growing more of them can help neighborhoods handle hotter summers. For that reason, decisions about streets, schools, and housing should include space for healthy trees. This choice supports public health while making city life more comfortable.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which paragraph is the concluding paragraph? Write its number and name two earlier ideas that it brings together.

2. What limitation does the first sentence of the conclusion acknowledge?

3. What recommendation does the conclusion make for decisions about streets, schools, and housing?

4. How does the sentence beginning “By shading hard surfaces” help the conclusion follow from the earlier information?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use these notes to write a 2-3 sentence concluding section: Cafeteria food scraps often go to landfills. Composting turns food scraps into nutrient-rich material. Garden plants need nutrients to grow. Bring the ideas together and state why the information matters.

ANSWER KEY

Closing the Canopy

GRADE 6 · W.6.2f

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the paragraph that brings the explanation to a close. Circle two details in that paragraph that connect back to ideas explained earlier. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which paragraph is the concluding paragraph? Write its number and name two earlier ideas that it brings together.	**Paragraph 3. It brings together trees shading and cooling city spaces and trees helping manage rainwater.**
2	What limitation does the first sentence of the conclusion acknowledge?	**It acknowledges that trees are not a complete answer to city heat.**
3	What recommendation does the conclusion make for decisions about streets, schools, and housing?	**These decisions should include space for healthy trees.**
4	How does the sentence beginning "By shading hard surfaces" help the conclusion follow from the earlier information?	**It summarizes the earlier explanation of how trees shade surfaces, cool the air, and help with rainwater before stating the larger takeaway.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Composting cafeteria scraps can turn waste into useful material for the school garden. Because it keeps food scraps out of landfills and adds nutrients to soil, a compost program is a sensible step toward a cleaner school.

Accept answers that identify paragraph 3 as the conclusion and explain that it summarizes earlier information while giving a broader recommendation. For the open task, accept a concluding section that combines the notes and states a reasonable takeaway or recommendation.