Roots of a Conclusion

Trace how a conclusion grows from an explanation.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.2f "Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that concludes the passage. Circle at least two earlier details that support it, then draw arrows from those details to the conclusion.

Why City Trees Matter

1 On a hot summer afternoon, a row of trees can make a city block feel noticeably cooler. Tree leaves block sunlight from pavement and buildings, while water released from leaves cools the air. This shade can lower the need for air conditioning in nearby homes. Trees also catch some rain before it reaches streets. Their roots help water soak into soil, which can reduce puddles and flooding after heavy storms. For crowded neighborhoods, these benefits make trees more than decoration.

2 However, planting a tree is only the first step. Young trees need water, mulch, and protection from damage while their roots grow. City planners must choose species that can handle local weather, limited soil, and pests. A tree placed beneath power lines may require frequent trimming, and a tree planted in a tiny sidewalk cutout may struggle to survive. Communities can help by caring for newly planted trees and reporting problems. Planning and maintenance allow the trees' benefits to last for decades.

3 Because trees cool streets, manage rainwater, and improve neighborhood spaces, cities have strong reasons to protect and expand their tree cover. The work requires steady care, not just a single planting day. When residents, planners, and local groups share that responsibility, trees can remain healthy long enough to serve future neighbors. Investing in trees is therefore a practical way to make urban areas safer and more comfortable as temperatures rise and storms become more intense.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the sentence that serves as the passage's concluding statement.

2. Name two benefits from the first paragraph that the conclusion brings together.

3. How does the sentence about steady care help the conclusion follow from the information in paragraph 2?

4. The conclusion says trees can make urban areas safer and more comfortable. Which earlier information supports each part of that claim?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences explaining why your school could add a quiet reading area. Include two specific benefits, and make your last sentence a conclusion that brings the benefits together.

ANSWER KEY

Roots of a Conclusion

GRADE 7 · W.7.2f

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that concludes the passage. Circle at least two earlier details that support it, then draw arrows from those details to the conclusion. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the sentence that serves as the passage's concluding statement.	**Investing in trees is therefore a practical way to make urban areas safer and more comfortable as temperatures rise and storms become more intense.**
2	Name two benefits from the first paragraph that the conclusion brings together.	**Trees cool streets and help manage rainwater by reducing puddles and flooding.**
3	How does the sentence about steady care help the conclusion follow from the information in paragraph 2?	**It connects the conclusion to paragraph 2, which explains that trees need ongoing watering, protection, planning, and maintenance.**
4	The conclusion says trees can make urban areas safer and more comfortable. Which earlier information supports each part of that claim?	**Trees can make areas safer by reducing puddles and flooding, and more comfortable by cooling streets and nearby homes.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A quiet reading area would give students a place to focus during independent work. Soft seating and fewer distractions could help readers stay with a book longer. The area could also give students a calm place to read during lunch or study hall. For these reasons, a quiet reading area would support both concentration and enjoyment of reading.

Accept conclusions that clearly grow from the student's two stated benefits rather than adding an unrelated idea. For passage questions, accept equivalent wording that accurately connects cooling to comfort and rainwater control to safety.