

Cool City Blueprint

Study how an informational model introduces and organizes solutions.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.2a "Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables)..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that previews the plan, circle the two section headings, and draw a box around the table to show how the writer organizes information.

Cooling a City: Trees, Roofs, and Pavement

- ① Cities often become warmer than nearby rural areas because streets, roofs, and parking lots absorb sunlight. This urban heat island effect can raise daytime and nighttime temperatures, making heat waves more dangerous. City planners can reduce this extra heat in several ways. First, they can add shade with trees. Next, they can change building roofs. Finally, they can redesign paved spaces. The sections below explain how each approach works and when it is most useful.
- ② Add Shade Trees cool sidewalks and buildings by blocking sunlight. Their leaves also release water vapor, which can help cool the air. Shade is especially valuable at bus stops, playgrounds, and walking routes where people spend time outdoors. However, young trees need watering and care before they provide wide shade. The table compares two common choices. It also helps planners match a solution to a place. Location | Best first step Wide parking lot | Plant rows of trees Sunny bus stop | Add a shade tree or shelter
- ③ Improve Surfaces Roofs and pavement can also be designed to absorb less heat. A cool roof uses light-colored or reflective material to send more sunlight back into the atmosphere. On sidewalks or plazas, planners may use lighter pavement, permeable pavers, or planted areas. These choices work differently: reflective roofs mainly protect buildings, while trees and planted spaces can cool people nearby. A city may combine methods because each neighborhood has different space, costs, and needs. Clear categories help readers compare the choices before considering a plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What topic does the introduction present, and what three approaches does it preview?

2 How do the two section headings divide the solutions into broader categories?

3 According to the table, what is the best first step for a sunny bus stop?

4 Why is the table useful to a reader? Use evidence from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a practical school improvement topic. Write a two-sentence introduction that names the topic and previews two categories, then add two headings and a two-row table that helps readers compare a choice.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that previews the plan, circle the two section headings, and draw a box around the table to show how the writer organizes information. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What topic does the introduction present, and what three approaches does it preview?	It presents ways to reduce the urban heat island effect: add shade with trees, change building roofs, and redesign paved spaces.
2	How do the two section headings divide the solutions into broader categories?	"Add Shade" groups tree-based shade solutions. "Improve Surfaces" groups solutions involving roofs and pavement.
3	According to the table, what is the best first step for a sunny bus stop?	Add a shade tree or shelter.
4	Why is the table useful to a reader? Use evidence from the passage.	It helps readers match a solution to a specific location or place.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Reducing cafeteria waste can save resources and keep food scraps out of landfills. Our school can improve sorting stations and plan portions more carefully. Sorting Stations Clear signs show students where to place compost, recycling, and trash. Portion Planning Serving choices can reduce unopened food. Item | Helpful action Unopened packaged food | Share through an approved food-share table Fruit peels and leftovers | Collect for compost

Accept answers that accurately identify the introduction, categories, and table purpose using passage evidence. For the open task, check for a clear topic, a preview of two categories, matching headings, and a table with two useful comparison rows.