

Cooler City Conclusions

Trace how a conclusion gathers an explanation's key ideas.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.2f "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 gives a final recommendation. Circle three words or phrases in the last paragraph that connect to ideas explained earlier in the passage.

Cooling City Blocks

- ① On a July afternoon, a city block can feel much hotter than a nearby park. Dark roofs, asphalt streets, and parked cars absorb sunlight and release heat slowly. This pattern, called an urban heat island, can raise neighborhood temperatures, especially after sunset. Higher temperatures can make homes uncomfortable, increase air-conditioning use, and worsen health risks during heat waves. Trees and green spaces help because leaves provide shade and water released by plants cools the air.
- ② Cities can reduce this effect with several linked choices. Light-colored or reflective roofs absorb less solar energy than dark roofs. Planting street trees shades sidewalks and buildings, while replacing some pavement with parks or planted areas creates cooler surfaces. These changes work best when cities also protect residents during extreme heat by opening cooling centers and sharing heat alerts. However, planners must maintain trees, provide water where needed, and choose projects that serve neighborhoods with the fewest shaded spaces.
- ③ Urban heat islands are not solved by one project alone. Reflective roofs can lower heat on buildings, trees can shade people walking outside, and cooling centers can offer immediate relief during dangerous weather. Because each approach addresses a different part of the problem, city leaders should combine them and direct resources to the hottest neighborhoods. A cooler city depends on planning that protects both the environment and the people who live in it over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What three approaches from the explanation are brought together in the concluding paragraph?

2 How does the sentence beginning "Because each approach" follow from the information in the passage?

3 What action does the conclusion recommend that city leaders take?

4 How does the last sentence support the recommendation in the paragraph before it?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence concluding section for an explanation about one school improvement. Connect two earlier points, state a supported recommendation or takeaway, and do not add new facts.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that gives a final recommendation. Circle three words or phrases in the last paragraph that connect to ideas explained earlier in the passage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three approaches from the explanation are brought together in the concluding paragraph?	Reflective roofs, street trees, and cooling centers.
2	How does the sentence beginning "Because each approach" follow from the information in the passage?	It follows because the passage explains that roofs lower building heat, trees provide shade, and cooling centers provide relief during extreme heat.
3	What action does the conclusion recommend that city leaders take?	Combine the approaches and direct resources to the hottest neighborhoods.
4	How does the last sentence support the recommendation in the paragraph before it?	It explains that long-term planning should protect both the environment and the people living in the city.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Adding shaded benches near the playground would give students a cooler place to wait and would make the area more usable on sunny days. Since the benches address both comfort and access to outdoor space, the school should include them in its next campus improvement plan. This change would make a familiar part of the school more useful for more students.

Accept answers that identify how the final paragraph gathers the earlier solutions and turns them into a recommendation. For the open response, accept varied topics if the conclusion connects prior points, provides a logical final idea or recommendation, and does not introduce unrelated information.