Shade With Purpose

Trace how a conclusion turns evidence into significance.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2f "Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that gives the passage's main concluding claim. Then number two earlier details that help explain why that claim matters.

Trees as Heat Protection

1 On summer afternoons, neighborhoods with fewer trees can become much hotter than nearby parks. Pavement and dark roofs absorb sunlight, then release heat slowly after sunset. Trees reduce this effect in two ways. Their leaves cast shade on sidewalks, buildings, and parked cars. They also release water vapor through transpiration, which can cool the surrounding air. Satellite images often show lower land-surface temperatures in places with more tree cover. Because tree cover is not distributed evenly, residents in some neighborhoods face higher heat exposure than residents only a few blocks away.

2 Planting trees, however, is not as simple as placing any sapling in an empty strip of grass. Young trees need watering, protection from damage, and enough soil for roots to grow. Cities also must select species that can handle local temperatures, pests, and storms. Some trees can interfere with power lines if they are planted in the wrong location. Programs work best when city planners consult residents about where shade is most needed and when they budget for care after planting. In one planning approach, city staff and residents map hot walking routes near schools, bus stops, and senior centers before choosing planting sites.

3 Urban tree planting is therefore more than a beautification project. When communities place and care for trees where heat is greatest, they can make daily travel and outdoor spaces safer during extreme weather. The work can also direct public resources toward neighborhoods that have received less shade in the past. Still, planting alone will not solve every heat-related problem, so cities should combine trees with cooling centers, safe housing, and reliable public transit. A thoughtful tree program shows how a practical local choice can improve health, comfort, and fairness at the same time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the first sentence of the concluding paragraph. What claim does it make about tree planting?

2. Name two details from paragraphs 1 or 2 that support the conclusion's focus on careful tree placement and care.

3. What limitation does the conclusion acknowledge, and what does it recommend cities do because of that limitation?

4. According to the final sentence, what three outcomes can a thoughtful tree program improve?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine that you explained that later school start times can help teenagers get more sleep and be more alert, but changing schedules can affect buses and after-school activities. Write a concluding section of exactly three sentences that states the topic's significance and addresses the scheduling challenge.

ANSWER KEY

Shade With Purpose

HIGH SCHOOL · W.9-10.2f

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that gives the passage's main concluding claim. Then number two earlier details that help explain why that claim matters. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the first sentence of the concluding paragraph. What claim does it make about tree planting?	**"Urban tree planting is therefore more than a beautification project." It claims that planting trees has an important purpose beyond making a place look nicer.**
2	Name two details from paragraphs 1 or 2 that support the conclusion's focus on careful tree placement and care.	**Answers may include that trees cool areas through shade and transpiration, tree cover is unevenly distributed, young trees need water and protection, species must fit local conditions, trees must avoid power lines, or planners should consult residents and fund care.**
3	What limitation does the conclusion acknowledge, and what does it recommend cities do because of that limitation?	**It acknowledges that planting trees alone will not solve every heat-related problem. It recommends combining trees with cooling centers, safe housing, and reliable public transit.**
4	According to the final sentence, what three outcomes can a thoughtful tree program improve?	**Health, comfort, and fairness.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Later start times can help schools support students' health and readiness to learn. Because transportation and after-school schedules may need to change, districts should plan with families and staff before changing the bell schedule. A careful shift in start time can show that school policies affect students long after the first class begins.

Accept conclusions that follow from both benefits and the scheduling challenge in the prompt. The response must contain exactly three sentences and include a clear statement of significance or implication.