

Make the Case

Study how a proposal uses reasons, evidence, and transitions.

ELA.5.C.1 "Communicating Through Writing"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the claim, number the two reasons that support it, and circle the transition words that connect the ideas so you can see how the writer builds a convincing proposal.

A Refill Station for Cedar School

- ① Cedar School should install a water bottle refill station near the gym. First, students need easy access to water after recess and physical education. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says drinking water is a healthy choice for students. A station would let students fill reusable bottles quickly instead of waiting at a drinking fountain or buying a sweet drink.
- ② In addition, reusable bottles can cut down on trash. The Environmental Protection Agency reports that plastic containers and packaging make up a large part of municipal solid waste in the United States. When students refill the same bottle, fewer single-use bottles may end up in classroom bins or on the playground. This change would help keep our school grounds cleaner.
- ③ Some people may worry that a refill station would cost money. However, the school could ask the parent group or a local business to help pay for it. Because the station would support healthy choices and reduce litter, it is a useful improvement. For these reasons, Cedar School should make refilling water bottles simple for every student.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the writer's claim?

2 What reason does paragraph 1 give, and what evidence supports that reason?

3 How does the transition "In addition" help organize paragraph 2?

4 How does the final paragraph respond to a concern and then reinforce the claim?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-paragraph proposal of 90 to 120 words for one improvement at your school. State a clear claim, support it with two reasons and at least one fact or observation, use at least three transition words, and end by restating your claim.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the claim, number the two reasons that support it, and circle the transition words that connect the ideas so you can see how the writer builds a convincing proposal. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's claim?	Cedar School should install a water bottle refill station near the gym.
2	What reason does paragraph 1 give, and what evidence supports that reason?	Students need easy access to water after activity, and the CDC says drinking water is a healthy choice for students.
3	How does the transition "In addition" help organize paragraph 2?	It signals a second reason, that reusable bottles can reduce trash.
4	How does the final paragraph respond to a concern and then reinforce the claim?	It acknowledges the cost, suggests help from a parent group or local business, and repeats that the station would support healthy choices and reduce litter.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

We should add a shaded table area beside the playground. During warm days, students eat snacks or wait for rides in the sun. A covered table would give them a cooler place to sit. It could also make outdoor reading more comfortable. Also, our school already has picnic tables, but none are covered. Adding a roof above one table would use space that students know well. For example, a class could meet there for a science observation, and families could use it during outdoor events. Although a roof would cost money, the parent group could raise funds at an event. Therefore, one shaded table is a practical way to make the playground more useful.

Accept equivalent wording that identifies the claim, reasons, evidence, transitions, and conclusion. For the proposal, accept varied school improvements if the response has three paragraphs, a supported claim, logical transitions, and a concluding restatement.