

Pitch a Plan

Track how a speaker builds a clear, supported message.

ELA.7.C.2.1 “Present information orally, in a logical sequence, emphasizing key points that support the central idea.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that states the central idea. Circle the sequence words that guide the listener, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside one key supporting point from each paragraph in the order it is presented.

A Refill Station Proposal

- ① Every day, our cafeteria throws away hundreds of plastic drink bottles. At our school, students can buy bottled water, but many forget to bring reusable bottles. As a result, recycling bins fill quickly, and some bottles end up in trash. I propose adding two water-refill stations near the cafeteria and gym. These stations would let students refill reusable bottles with filtered water. The plan would reduce waste while giving students an easy way to get a drink during busy school days.
- ② First, the school could ask a local water-service company for price estimates and filter details. The student council could then compare the estimates and share the cost with the principal. Next, volunteers could survey students about where refill stations would be most useful. This step matters because stations placed near crowded areas would serve more people. After the locations are chosen, the school could install the stations during a school break. Clear signs would show students how to use them and remind them to bring reusable bottles.
- ③ Finally, the refill stations could save money over time. Although installation would cost money at first, the school might spend less on purchasing bottled water for events. Students who use refillable bottles could also avoid buying single bottles each week. The project would not solve every waste problem, but it would make a practical difference. By starting with two stations, the school could test the idea, track bottle waste, and decide later whether more stations are needed.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the speaker's central idea?

2 Which two details in paragraph 1 establish the need for the speaker's proposal?

3 What planning steps does the speaker present before the stations are installed? Put the steps in order.

4 Why does the final paragraph mention both an early cost and long-term benefits?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose one practical improvement for your school. Write a 90 to 110-word speech that states one central idea, presents at least three key points in a logical order, and uses sequence words. End by explaining why your idea should be tried.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that states the central idea. Circle the sequence words that guide the listener, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside one key supporting point from each paragraph in the order it is presented. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the speaker's central idea?	The school should add two water-refill stations to reduce plastic bottle waste and give students easy access to drinking water.
2	Which two details in paragraph 1 establish the need for the speaker's proposal?	The cafeteria throws away hundreds of plastic drink bottles each day, and many students forget to bring reusable bottles.
3	What planning steps does the speaker present before the stations are installed? Put the steps in order.	Get price estimates and filter details, compare costs with the principal, then survey students to choose useful locations.
4	Why does the final paragraph mention both an early cost and long-term benefits?	It shows that the speaker has considered a drawback, then explains that the stations could save money, reduce single-bottle purchases, and be tested before expanding.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add shaded benches near the bus loop. First, the principal could ask students and drivers where people wait longest after school. Next, the school could choose a safe spot that does not block buses or walkers. Then, a local builder could give the school a cost estimate for durable benches with canopies. These benches would give students protection from hot sun and light rain. They would also provide a clear waiting area, which could make dismissal less crowded. Because the plan begins with safety and uses a careful budget, shaded benches are a practical improvement.

Accept central-idea answers that include both adding refill stations and the purpose of reducing waste or improving access to water. For the speech, accept varied school improvements if the response is 90 to 110 words and includes a clear central idea, logical sequence, at least three supporting points, and a concluding reason.