

# Speak With Purpose

Study how a speaker organizes evidence and delivery choices.

**ELA.8.C.2** “Communicating Orally”

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline the words that show the speaker’s order, circle each bracketed delivery cue, and number three reasons or details that support the proposal so you can see how the speaker makes a clear oral presentation.

### Shade Along the Walkway

- ① Good afternoon, school board members. Our campus can lower summer heat by adding shade trees near the west-facing sidewalk. [Point to map.] In July, pavement in direct sun can become much hotter than the air, making the walk from buses uncomfortable. Trees also intercept sunlight before it reaches the ground. I will explain where the trees could go, how they would help students safely each school day, and how the school could care for them.
- ② First, the map shows two open planting strips beside the library and gym. [Pause.] These spots are near routes students already use, so shade would serve many walkers. The National Weather Service advises people to limit outdoor exertion during the hottest part of hot days. [Speak slowly.] More shade would not replace water breaks or heat-safety plans, but it could make a daily route less exposed to direct sun during the afternoon in summer months.
- ③ Finally, care makes the proposal practical. [Make eye contact with three listeners.] The school could choose native or well-adapted trees after consulting a local arborist, because suitable species need less rescue watering once established. Students could help mulch young trees and report damage, while trained staff handle pruning. [Lower your voice for the final point.] A shaded sidewalk is a modest change that supports safer, more comfortable arrivals for everyone on hot mornings before class begins.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What proposal does the speaker present to the school board?

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2 Which words or phrases show the order of the presentation? Explain how they help listeners follow the speaker's ideas.

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3 Why does the speaker include the direction [Speak slowly] before explaining heat safety?

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4 Why does the speaker say the school should consult a local arborist before choosing trees?

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## 3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a 90 to 110 word oral proposal for a different improvement at your school. State a clear claim, give two reasons with specific details, use an order word such as First or Finally, and include exactly two bracketed delivery cues.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline the words that show the speaker's order, circle each bracketed delivery cue, and number three reasons or details that support the proposal so you can see how the speaker makes a clear oral presentation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                               | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                 |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What proposal does the speaker present to the school board?                                                            | <b>Add shade trees near the west-facing sidewalk.</b>                                                                                                  |
| 2 | Which words or phrases show the order of the presentation? Explain how they help listeners follow the speaker's ideas. | <b>"I will explain," "First," and "Finally" signal the order. They show listeners what ideas are coming and when the speaker moves to a new point.</b> |
| 3 | Why does the speaker include the direction [Speak slowly] before explaining heat safety?                               | <b>Speaking slowly helps listeners understand the important information about heat, water breaks, and safety plans.</b>                                |
| 4 | Why does the speaker say the school should consult a local arborist before choosing trees?                             | <b>An arborist can help the school choose native or well-adapted trees that need less rescue watering once established.</b>                            |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Students should have a water refill station near the gym. [Look at the audience.] First, athletes and students in physical education often finish activities thirsty, yet the nearest fountain is across the hall. A refill station would let them fill reusable bottles quickly instead of waiting in a crowded line. Second, many refill stations have digital counters that track refills and make reduced disposable-bottle use visible. [Pause.] Our school could ask the student council to survey users and share the results with the principal. This practical change would support hydration and reduce disposable-bottle waste at school.

Accept equivalent organizational signals, evidence, and explanations that are supported by the passage. For the oral proposal, accept a different school improvement if it includes a claim, two specific supporting reasons, logical order, and exactly two appropriate delivery cues.