Lighting With Purpose

Trace how appeals and imagery support a public recommendation.

ELA.8.R.2.3 "Explain how an author establishes and achieves purpose(s) through rhetorical appeals and/or figurative language."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words and phrases that reveal the author's recommendation and reasons. Circle each factual or authority-based appeal, emotional appeal, or figurative comparison that helps persuade the town council.

A Smarter Kind of Night

1. At night, a city should help people see without turning the sky into a glowing ceiling. Shielded streetlights point light downward, where walkers, drivers, and cyclists need it. The International Dark-Sky Association recommends using fully shielded fixtures and warmer-colored bulbs to limit glare and skyglow. These choices can make streets easier to navigate while allowing residents to see more stars. Our town council should replace outdated fixtures when they wear out, not wait for darkness to disappear completely.

2. Some people worry that better lighting will cost too much. Yet the U.S. Department of Energy reports that LED bulbs use at least 75 percent less energy and last up to 25 times longer than incandescent lighting. Because shielded fixtures send less light upward, towns can avoid wasting electricity on empty sky. A careful upgrade is like aiming a flashlight at a book instead of shining it at the ceiling. It uses public money for light people can actually use.

3. Darkness is not an empty space that a town has failed to fill. It is a habitat for moths, bats, and other nocturnal animals. Bright, unshielded lights can confuse migrating birds, which use stars and other natural cues to travel at night. Think of a bird circling a bright building until exhaustion pulls it down. By choosing lights that guide people safely, the council can also protect the quiet nighttime routes that wildlife depends on.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the author's intended audience? State the author's purpose and include one phrase from the passage that supports your answer.

2. How does the reference to the International Dark-Sky Association help the author achieve the purpose?

3. How do the Department of Energy facts in paragraph 2 support the author's recommendation?

4. What does the image of a bird circling a bright building appeal to, and how does it support the author's purpose?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence message to your principal supporting covered bike racks near the main entrance. State your purpose, include one logical or emotional appeal labeled [A], include one figurative comparison or image labeled [F], and explain in the fourth sentence how your choices support your purpose.

ANSWER KEY

Lighting With Purpose

GRADE 8 · ELA.8.R.2.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words and phrases that reveal the author's recommendation and reasons. Circle each factual or authority-based appeal, emotional appeal, or figurative comparison that helps persuade the town council. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the author's intended audience? State the author's purpose and include one phrase from the passage that supports your answer.	**The intended audience is the town council. The author aims to persuade it to use shielded, warmer-colored lighting, shown by the phrase, "Our town council should replace outdated fixtures."**
2	How does the reference to the International Dark-Sky Association help the author achieve the purpose?	**It is an authority-based appeal. The association's recommendation makes the proposed lighting choices seem informed and trustworthy.**
3	How do the Department of Energy facts in paragraph 2 support the author's recommendation?	**The facts show that LED lighting uses less energy and lasts longer, so the author argues that improved lighting can save public money instead of costing too much.**
4	What does the image of a bird circling a bright building appeal to, and how does it support the author's purpose?	**It appeals to readers' concern for wildlife. The image makes the harm of unshielded lights feel urgent and supports the call for safer, wildlife-friendly lighting.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add covered bike racks near the main entrance. [A] Students who ride to school need their bicycles protected from rain during class, and covered racks may make biking a more practical choice. [F] A roof over the racks would be an umbrella for the bicycles. The practical reason and the image show why the racks would help students and make my request convincing.

Accept equivalent statements of the purpose, audience, and effects when students use passage evidence. For the open response, accept varied school-related reasoning and imagery if the response has four sentences, includes both labeled techniques, and explains how they support the request.