Make a Case

Read how a focused proposal guides a public decision.

10.P.EICC.2.e "Consume and produce texts in order to solve problems or influence decisions. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline evidence the writer uses to support the request, circle the specific action the writer wants, and number the writer's reasons for that action.

A Shelter at Oak Street

(1) Members of the Riverton City Transit Board, I am asking you to add a covered bus shelter at the Oak Street stop before the 2027-28 school year begins. Each weekday, students from Riverton High and workers from the medical clinic wait there, often in rain or extreme heat. The nearest shelter is six blocks away, across a busy intersection. A shelter at Oak Street would not solve every transportation problem, but it would give riders a safer, more reliable place to wait while buses arrive on schedule.

(2) To understand the need, the board could review the attached rider count. During five mornings in October, volunteers counted an average of 42 people waiting at Oak Street between 7:15 and 7:45 a.m. The city's transit webpage also reports that Route 8 serves the stop every 20 minutes on weekdays. Because riders may wait through several traffic-light cycles, a roof and bench would reduce exposure to weather and keep people from crowding near the curb. These details show that the stop has regular use, not an occasional inconvenience.

(3) I recognize that shelters cost money and require maintenance. However, the board does not need to redesign the entire route. It can begin with one standard shelter at Oak Street, then examine rider counts and maintenance reports after six months. Please place this item on the board's November agenda and authorize staff to seek price estimates. A decision then would allow installation during summer 2027, before the 2027-28 school year begins and before riders face another winter without cover. This limited step uses evidence, addresses cost, and gives the board a way to measure results.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the writer trying to influence, and what decision does the writer want that group to make?

2. Identify two pieces of evidence the writer uses to show that the Oak Street stop is used regularly.

3. How does the detail about the nearest shelter being six blocks away across a busy intersection strengthen the writer's request?

4. What plan does the writer offer to address concerns about cost and maintenance, and when does the writer say installation could occur?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 5-7 sentence message to a person or group that can make a decision about a school or community issue. State a specific request, use two pieces of evidence, and address one likely concern before asking for action.

ANSWER KEY

Make a Case

GRADE 10 · 10.P.EICC.2.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline evidence the writer uses to support the request, circle the specific action the writer wants, and number the writer's reasons for that action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the writer trying to influence, and what decision does the writer want that group to make?	**The writer is trying to influence the Riverton City Transit Board to add a covered bus shelter at the Oak Street stop.**
2	Identify two pieces of evidence the writer uses to show that the Oak Street stop is used regularly.	**Volunteers counted an average of 42 people there during the morning period on five October days, and Route 8 serves the stop every 20 minutes on weekdays.**
3	How does the detail about the nearest shelter being six blocks away across a busy intersection strengthen the writer's request?	**It shows that riders cannot easily or safely use another shelter, so a shelter at Oak Street would meet a real need.**
4	What plan does the writer offer to address concerns about cost and maintenance, and when does the writer say installation could occur?	**The writer proposes starting with one standard shelter and reviewing rider counts and maintenance reports after six months. Installation could occur during summer 2027, before the 2027-28 school year and another winter.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Members of the School Facilities Committee, please approve a water-bottle filling station outside the cafeteria. During three lunch periods, I counted 31 students waiting to use the two existing fountains. The nurse's office also recorded 18 requests for disposable cups last month when students forgot bottles. A filling station would shorten lines and reduce cup use. Although installation has a cost, the committee could request two bids and begin with one unit. Please discuss the purchase at the December meeting.

Accept answers that accurately identify the audience, request, evidence, reasoning, and proposed response to cost or maintenance. For the open response, accept different school or community issues when the message includes a clear decision maker, a specific request, relevant evidence, and a response to a concern.