Draft With Purpose

See how a persuasive draft blends evidence, imagery, and audience awareness.

10.P.EICC.4.e "Construct an initial draft by integrating ideas and information; selecting words, phrases, and sentences; and incorporating craft techniques that will best achieve the purpose of the text and resonate with the target audience. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's main request, circle two details that support it, and number three phrases that help readers picture the proposed change. These choices show how a draft can persuade through selected information and language.

A Rain Garden for Our Courtyard

1 Dear Members of the School Facilities Committee, Our courtyard's lowest corner turns into a shallow, muddy pond after heavy rain, and students must step around it on the way to the library. I am asking the committee to approve a small rain garden in that corner. A rain garden is a planted basin that temporarily collects stormwater and lets it soak into the ground. Instead of watching brown water spread across the walkway, we could see grasses and flowers move in the wind. This project would make a daily route safer while giving science classes a living place to observe insects and soil.

2 The design can be modest and practical. The garden would use deep-rooted native species chosen for this site, along with plants that can tolerate both wet and dry periods. Their roots can help hold soil in place, while the basin slows runoff. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, rain gardens can reduce runoff by allowing water to soak into the ground. The committee could begin with a plot about the size of two parking spaces and ask the environmental club to help label plants. That scale keeps costs manageable and gives students a visible role in caring for the space.

3 Choosing this project now would show that the school plans for problems before they become barriers. The muddy corner may seem small, yet it affects every student who uses the library path during a storm. A rain garden would turn that trouble spot into a place where water sinks, pollinators visit, and students can investigate a local system. Please place this proposal on the agenda for the next facilities meeting. I would be glad to share a sketch of the site and gather student observations before the committee decides.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the intended audience for this draft? Give one detail from the passage that supports your answer.

2. What is the writer's main request, and which sentence states it most directly?

3. Identify two details from paragraph 2 that make the proposal sound practical for the audience.

4. How does the contrast between "brown water spread across the walkway" and "grasses and flowers move in the wind" help achieve the writer's purpose?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 90-110-word initial draft to a school decision-maker proposing a change to one campus area. Include a clear request, two concrete supporting details, one image-making phrase, and a final action you want the reader to take.

ANSWER KEY

Draft With Purpose

GRADE 10 · 10.P.EICC.4.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's main request, circle two details that support it, and number three phrases that help readers picture the proposed change. These choices show how a draft can persuade through selected information and language. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the intended audience for this draft? Give one detail from the passage that supports your answer.	**The intended audience is the School Facilities Committee. The greeting addresses its members, and the writer asks for the proposal to be placed on the facilities meeting agenda.**
2	What is the writer's main request, and which sentence states it most directly?	**The writer wants approval for a small rain garden in the courtyard's lowest corner. The direct sentence is: "I am asking the committee to approve a small rain garden in that corner."**
3	Identify two details from paragraph 2 that make the proposal sound practical for the audience.	**The garden could be about the size of two parking spaces, and the environmental club could help label plants. These details address manageable scale, cost, and student involvement.**
4	How does the contrast between "brown water spread across the walkway" and "grasses and flowers move in the wind" help achieve the writer's purpose?	**The contrast creates a clear image of the current problem and a more appealing image of the proposed solution, making the rain garden seem worthwhile.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Dear Principal Rivera, Please approve three covered tables beside the east entrance for students who wait for rides. On rainy afternoons, more than twenty students often crowd beneath the narrow awning, and backpacks press against the glass doors. Last week, a student using crutches had to wait in the rain because the dry space was full. Covered tables would create a calmer, safer pickup area, where rain taps overhead instead of soaking notebooks. They could also serve as outdoor work spaces on mild days. Please add this small project to the spring maintenance plan.

For the open response, accept varied campus proposals if the draft meets the word range and includes a request, two concrete details, imagery, and a clear final action.