Vote Behind Words

Trace how a writer's situation shapes a civic argument.

10.P.ST.2.b "Draw from knowledge of author, audience, and context to discern and establish a clear point of view or unique perspective when interpreting and constructing texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or phrases that reveal the writer's role or experience, circle clues about the intended audience and situation, and number details that show the writer's point of view. Use your marks to explain how the writer shapes the message for a particular audience.

A Bike Hub for Riverton

1. On Thursday, the Riverton City Council will vote on whether to replace the empty lot beside the bus station with a covered bike hub. I support the project, but not because bicycles are fashionable. I ride Route 6 to school and often see students lock bikes to fences in rain or leave them at home. The proposed hub would provide 80 secure spaces, repair tools, and a roof. For commuters who combine biking and buses, those details could turn a difficult trip into a dependable one.

2. Council members should also consider what the hub would cost residents who never bike. The city estimates construction at $420,000, using transportation funds that cannot pay for classroom supplies. That price deserves scrutiny, yet the lot already requires lighting and cleanup. A hub could make the station safer after dark by bringing regular activity to its edge. Before voting, I ask you to compare the project's long-term maintenance plan with the cost of leaving the lot unused. A careful decision should protect both taxpayers and daily riders.

3. My view comes from experience, but it is not only personal. Last winter, our school surveyed 214 students who travel by bus, and 61 said bad weather made them less likely to bike to the station. The survey is limited, since it did not include adult workers, so council members should seek more data. Still, the results explain why a covered hub matters to students. I am writing to you, the officials responsible for public spending, because you can require clear maintenance reports while giving young commuters a safer choice.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's central point of view about the bike hub? Give two passage details that make this view clear.

2. How does the writer's role as a Route 6 rider and student shape which benefits the writer emphasizes?

3. Who is the intended audience? Identify two choices in the writing that show the writer tailored the message to that audience.

4. How do the upcoming council vote and concern about spending affect the writer's tone and approach?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 90- to 110-word message to a school decision-maker about a change you think is needed. Make your point of view clear through your role or experience, name or address your audience, include one concrete detail, and acknowledge one reasonable concern before making a specific request.

ANSWER KEY

Vote Behind Words

GRADE 10 · 10.P.ST.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words or phrases that reveal the writer's role or experience, circle clues about the intended audience and situation, and number details that show the writer's point of view. Use your marks to explain how the writer shapes the message for a particular audience. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's central point of view about the bike hub? Give two passage details that make this view clear.	**The writer supports building the covered bike hub while asking for careful spending oversight. The writer cites secure spaces, repair tools, and a roof, and also asks council members to compare maintenance costs with the cost of leaving the lot unused.**
2	How does the writer's role as a Route 6 rider and student shape which benefits the writer emphasizes?	**Because the writer rides the bus to school and sees students struggle with bikes in bad weather, the writer emphasizes secure storage, shelter, and a safer, more dependable trip for student commuters.**
3	Who is the intended audience? Identify two choices in the writing that show the writer tailored the message to that audience.	**The intended audience is the Riverton City Council. The writer directly addresses "Council members" and "you," refers to their upcoming vote, and discusses public spending, maintenance reports, and taxpayers.**
4	How do the upcoming council vote and concern about spending affect the writer's tone and approach?	**They make the writer's approach balanced and cautious. The writer acknowledges the construction cost and limits of the school survey, then asks officials to compare costs and seek more data rather than simply demanding approval.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Alvarez, as a student who stays for robotics practice twice each week, I see classmates searching for an open place to work after the late bus leaves. The library closes at 4:00, although practice ends at 5:15. Keeping it open longer would give students a quiet, supervised space to finish assignments and wait safely. I understand that staffing an extra hour costs money. Could you survey students who use late activities, review the staffing cost, and consider a six-week trial that keeps the library open until 5:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays?

Accept equivalent, evidence-based interpretations of the writer's perspective, audience, and context. For Part 3, verify 90 to 110 words and look for an identifiable author perspective, an appropriate audience, a concrete detail, a fair concern, and a specific request.