

Speak to Decision Makers

Track how a public statement blends narrative, evidence, and proposal.

11.P.CP.2.b "Integrate modes and genres most appropriate to purpose and audience. (I/C)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB In the margin, label each paragraph with its main mode or genre, such as narrative, evidence-based explanation, or proposal. Circle one phrase in each paragraph that connects the message to the city council or its public decisions.

Testimony on the Oak Street Bike Lane

- ① Members of the Riverton City Council, I began riding the new protected bike-lane pilot after my evening shift at the library. Before the pilot, I avoided Oak Street because cars passed close to the curb, and I arrived home tense. Last Tuesday, a delivery truck blocked part of the lane, but the painted buffer still gave me space to stop safely. My experience is only one trip, yet it shows what your transportation choices feel like at street level. I am asking you to consider the pilot not as a stripe on pavement, but as a route people may depend on.
- ② The city's transportation department counted an average of 640 weekday bicycle trips on Oak Street during the six-week pilot, compared with 410 in the six weeks before it. Those counts do not prove that every new rider chose the lane for the same reason, but they show increased use while the route was protected. The department also recorded 18 reports of vehicles stopping in the lane. That problem matters because a lane works only when its boundaries stay clear. Council members must weigh both results, especially since you decide whether public funds will support maintenance, signs, and enforcement.
- ③ For these reasons, renew the pilot for one year and fund flexible posts at the three blocks where drivers most often enter the lane. Direct staff to publish monthly trip counts and obstruction reports on the city website, so residents and council members can judge the results together. Set a public meeting after six months, with translation services and time for nearby businesses to respond. This plan does not treat the pilot as finished evidence. Instead, it gives the council a limited, measurable next step while protecting riders and inviting the community to examine the data.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the main mode or genre of each paragraph? Explain how the three paragraphs work together to persuade the city council.

2 Which sentence keeps the bicycle-trip comparison from overstating what it proves? Why would that caution matter to this audience?

3 How does the final paragraph respond to the problem of vehicles stopping in the lane and to the need for more evidence? Use two details from the paragraph.

4 Identify one choice that shows the speaker has considered people beyond the city council. How does that choice strengthen the proposal for its audience?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a decision-making audience at your school or in your community and write a three-paragraph statement about an issue you know well. Use a brief narrative in paragraph 1, two accurate concrete details in paragraph 2, and a specific proposal in paragraph 3 that fits your audience's authority.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

In the margin, label each paragraph with its main mode or genre, such as narrative, evidence-based explanation, or proposal. Circle one phrase in each paragraph that connects the message to the city council or its public decisions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main mode or genre of each paragraph? Explain how the three paragraphs work together to persuade the city council.	Paragraph 1 is a personal narrative that makes the policy's effect concrete. Paragraph 2 is an evidence-based explanation that provides data and limits its claim. Paragraph 3 is a formal proposal that asks the council to take measurable action.
2	Which sentence keeps the bicycle-trip comparison from overstating what it proves? Why would that caution matter to this audience?	"Those counts do not prove that every new rider chose the lane for the same reason" limits the claim. The council must make funding decisions based on careful, accurate evidence.
3	How does the final paragraph respond to the problem of vehicles stopping in the lane and to the need for more evidence? Use two details from the paragraph.	It proposes flexible posts where drivers enter the lane, and it directs staff to publish monthly trip counts and obstruction reports. It also calls for a six-month public meeting to review results.
4	Identify one choice that shows the speaker has considered people beyond the city council. How does that choice strengthen the proposal for its audience?	The speaker requests translation services and time for nearby businesses to respond. This includes affected community members and shows the council that the plan invites broad public input.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Flores, last Thursday I tried to finish a scholarship application in the cafeteria during lunch. Two tables away, a pep-rally rehearsal made it hard to hear the questions on my laptop. I could not move to the library because it was closed for a class meeting. Over five lunch periods, I counted 27 students working alone with headphones in the cafeteria. Our library has 36 seats, but its current lunch-hour schedule leaves them unavailable on Tuesdays and Thursdays. These details suggest that students need one predictable quiet place, not merely a silent corner when space happens to be open. Please open the library's seminar room for supervised quiet study on those two lunch periods for a six-week trial. Post the room rules and ask the librarian to record daily attendance. At the end of the trial, review attendance and student feedback before deciding whether to extend the schedule.

Accept equivalent labels for the paragraph modes or genres when students accurately explain each paragraph's purpose. In Part 3, look for a clear match among the decision-making audience, the selected modes, the concrete details, and the proposed action.