Clues Before Concrete

Track clues, make predictions, and revise them when evidence changes.

11.P.EICC.3.e "Make and track predictions about the events and information likely to come next. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details that signal what may happen next. Number the details 1, 2, and 3 in the order you notice them, then write a brief prediction in the margin beside each one.

The Riverside Map

1. On Monday evening, Mara volunteered at the town archive while a storm pressed rain against the tall windows. Her assignment seemed simple: scan a box of letters from the closed Riverside textile mill. Yet the box contained a 1978 map with several blocks colored red, although no key explained the marks. The archive director, Mr. Bell, paused when he saw it and said the map had never appeared in the catalog. He asked Mara to leave it on his desk until morning. Instead, he locked the map in a flat file and took the only key home.

2. By noon Tuesday, crews had begun removing pavement for a riverside park two blocks from the old mill. Mara remembered the red blocks and noticed that the construction fence surrounded one of them. Mr. Bell returned looking exhausted, carrying a newspaper clipping dated three days after the map. It reported that mill workers had complained of a chemical odor near a drainage tunnel, but the article ended before naming the substance. Bell said the city planned to pour concrete that afternoon. He called the public works office, then placed the map beside the scanner, telling Mara to make a digital copy before anyone moved it.

3. An hour later, the excavation stopped. A crew supervisor had exposed a rusted pipe leading toward the drainage tunnel, and the workers reported the same sharp odor described in the clipping. Public works officials closed the site and requested environmental testing. Two days later, laboratory results identified a solvent in the soil, not an immediate airborne threat, but a substance requiring removal before construction could continue. The archived map had marked the suspected disposal area, not a planned expansion of the mill. Mara added the scan to the catalog, and Bell gave the city a copy for its investigation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. At the end of paragraph 1, what is the most supported prediction you can make about Mr. Bell and the map? Use two details from the paragraph.

2. At the end of paragraph 2, what action is most likely to happen at the construction site before concrete is poured? Explain which clues support your prediction.

3. Which event in paragraph 3 most clearly confirms the prediction that officials will investigate the site?

4. Suppose you predicted that the red blocks showed a planned mill expansion. How should paragraph 3 revise that prediction? Name the detail that causes the revision.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Create a three-sentence mini-scene about a community project. In sentence 1, give two clues and a prediction, in sentence 2, add new information, and in sentence 3, explain whether the new information confirms or revises your prediction.

ANSWER KEY

Clues Before Concrete

GRADE 11 · 11.P.EICC.3.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three details that signal what may happen next. Number the details 1, 2, and 3 in the order you notice them, then write a brief prediction in the margin beside each one. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	At the end of paragraph 1, what is the most supported prediction you can make about Mr. Bell and the map? Use two details from the paragraph.	**Mr. Bell will return to investigate or protect the map because it is uncataloged, he locks it away, and he takes the only key home.**
2	At the end of paragraph 2, what action is most likely to happen at the construction site before concrete is poured? Explain which clues support your prediction.	**The city will likely stop work and inspect or test the site. The red map block, the chemical-odor clipping, and Bell's call to public works support this prediction.**
3	Which event in paragraph 3 most clearly confirms the prediction that officials will investigate the site?	**Officials close the site and request environmental testing after workers expose a pipe and report the sharp odor.**
4	Suppose you predicted that the red blocks showed a planned mill expansion. How should paragraph 3 revise that prediction? Name the detail that causes the revision.	**The prediction should change because the map marked a suspected disposal area, not a mill expansion. The solvent found in the soil supports the revised prediction.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the abandoned train station, workers find fresh footprints beside a locked equipment shed and hear a radio playing inside, so I predict someone is using the building. A maintenance log then shows that a security guard checks the shed each morning. I revise my prediction because the footprints and radio may belong to the guard, although the locked shed still deserves investigation.

Accept predictions that are logically supported by details available at the stated point in the passage. For the open task, check that the student includes two clues, a reasonable prediction, new information, and a clear explanation of confirmation or revision.