# Shade, Costs, Choices

Trace how a proposal guides readers from problem to decision.

**11.T.T.2** "Expository Techniques: Evaluate and apply expository techniques to enhance text's appeal to audiences or achieve specific purposes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline details that make the proposal concrete, and circle language that asks readers to weigh a choice. In the margin, label each underlined detail E for evidence or I for imagery.

### A Cooler Route

1 On a July afternoon, the pavement around Eastview Transit Center can become far hotter than the air above it. Riders waiting beside the uncovered curb have little protection from direct sun, while buses idle and traffic moves through the intersection. The city's proposed Shade Route would plant drought-tolerant trees and add shade structures along six busy blocks. Planners estimate that the project would cost $420,000, including irrigation and early maintenance. That number invites a practical question: what does a cooler trip to work, school, or medical care cost a neighborhood now?

2 The proposal is not only about comfort. Extreme heat can strain the body, especially for older adults, young children, and people who work outdoors. Consider a rider carrying groceries across a treeless block at 4 p.m., when the sun is still high and the metal bench is too hot to use. A canopy is not instant. A newly planted tree offers limited shade, but a healthy mature canopy can lower surface temperatures beneath it and change how a street feels on foot. The plan also calls for temporary fabric shelters while trees grow.

3 Some residents may ask why the city should spend money on shade when other needs compete for funding. The proposal answers with a choice between visible costs and less visible ones. Six blocks of shelter would serve people who cannot simply move a bus stop into the shade or postpone a trip until evening. The plan includes maintenance because dead or neglected plantings would not deliver the promised benefit. City council members must decide whether to fund the route this year, revise it, or leave the corridors as they are. Their vote will shape the next summer's waits at the curb.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which detail in paragraph 2 makes heat exposure concrete rather than abstract? Explain what problem that detail helps a reader picture.

2. How do the contrast between a newly planted tree and a mature canopy, plus the mention of temporary shelters, affect a skeptical reader's view of the plan?

3. What does pairing the $420,000 estimate with the final question in paragraph 1 ask readers to consider?

4. How does the order of the three paragraphs support the proposal's purpose? Refer to the main work each paragraph does.

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly four sentences urging your principal to install a bottle-filling station near the gym. Include one precise fact or number, one concrete student moment, and one comparison or rhetorical question.

ANSWER KEY

# Shade, Costs, Choices

GRADE 11 · 11.T.T.2

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that make the proposal concrete, and circle language that asks readers to weigh a choice. In the margin, label each underlined detail E for evidence or I for imagery. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Which detail in paragraph 2 makes heat exposure concrete rather than abstract? Explain what problem that detail helps a reader picture. | **The rider carrying groceries across a treeless block at 4 p.m., with a hot metal bench, helps readers picture heat exposure during an ordinary transit trip.** |
| 2 | How do the contrast between a newly planted tree and a mature canopy, plus the mention of temporary shelters, affect a skeptical reader's view of the plan? | **They acknowledge that trees do not provide immediate shade, then show that temporary shelters address that gap while the trees grow.** |
| 3 | What does pairing the $420,000 estimate with the final question in paragraph 1 ask readers to consider? | **It asks readers to weigh the project's stated cost against the value of safer, cooler access to daily destinations.** |
| 4 | How does the order of the three paragraphs support the proposal's purpose? Refer to the main work each paragraph does. | **The text moves from the local problem and project details, to human effects and practical limits, to the funding decision facing the city council.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Install a bottle-filling station outside the gym before next season. A gallon of water weighs about eight pounds, so athletes should not have to carry heavy containers through the day or rely on a distant fountain. Picture the line after practice, when students wait to refill bottles as buses approach. Is a nearby station not a practical way to make water easier to reach?

Accept equivalent explanations that connect a technique to its likely effect on readers and support the explanation with passage details. For the open response, check for exactly four sentences, a clear appeal to the principal, and all three required techniques.