

Heat Plan Blueprint

Tracing how structure develops one claim.

12.T.SS.1.b "Blend multiple organizational structures to support and enhance a text's central message. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that states the passage's central message. In the margin, name each paragraph's main organizational structure and note any second structure it blends in.

Designing for Cooler Cities

- ① On summer afternoons, asphalt can make a city feel several degrees hotter than nearby parks. Dark roofs and pavement absorb sunlight, while sparse tree cover offers little shade or evaporative cooling. This uneven heat is not merely uncomfortable. It raises electricity demand, worsens some air pollutants, and places outdoor workers and residents without reliable air conditioning at greater risk. Cities often respond by opening cooling centers during heat waves. That emergency measure matters, but it treats the immediate danger rather than the surfaces and unequal conditions that intensify it.
- ② A long-term heat plan illustrates why design can complement emergency aid. First, city staff can map neighborhoods with fewer trees and higher temperatures. Next, they can use those maps to focus investments where exposure is greatest. When streets receive shade trees, reflective pavement, or cooler roofs, they absorb less heat, and nearby residents can face lower daytime exposure. Yet installation alone is not enough, because young trees need water and maintenance before they provide broad shade. This sequence shows that durable protection requires both targeted decisions and continued care.
- ③ Neither cooling centers nor street redesign can carry the whole burden. Cooling centers protect people quickly, but travel, work schedules, and limited information can keep residents from using them. Infrastructure changes reach daily life more directly, although they cost money and take years to mature. A durable heat strategy therefore joins both approaches and directs them first to the hottest, least shaded neighborhoods. The comparison clarifies the central point: heat resilience is strongest when a city pairs immediate protection with lasting environmental change, rather than presenting residents with a choice between rescue today and prevention tomorrow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the passage's central message? Identify the sentence that states it most directly.

2 How does paragraph 1 use a problem-and-response structure? Explain why the paragraph includes the limitation of cooling centers.

3 How does paragraph 2 blend sequence with cause and effect? Use details from the paragraph in your answer.

4 What comparison does paragraph 3 make between cooling centers and infrastructure changes? How does that comparison strengthen the central message?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 130-160-word, three-paragraph mini-text about a school or community issue. State a central message, then blend at least two organizational structures, such as problem-solution, sequence, cause-effect, or comparison, to develop it.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that states the passage's central message. In the margin, name each paragraph's main organizational structure and note any second structure it blends in. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the passage's central message? Identify the sentence that states it most directly.	The central message is that cities build stronger heat resilience by pairing immediate protection with lasting environmental change. It is stated most directly in the final sentence of paragraph 3.
2	How does paragraph 1 use a problem-and-response structure? Explain why the paragraph includes the limitation of cooling centers.	It presents intensified urban heat as the problem and cooling centers as an emergency response. The limitation shows that cooling centers address immediate danger but not the environmental and unequal conditions causing greater heat exposure.
3	How does paragraph 2 blend sequence with cause and effect? Use details from the paragraph in your answer.	It sequences mapping hotter, less shaded neighborhoods and then focusing investments there. It also explains that trees, reflective pavement, and cooler roofs absorb less heat, which can reduce nearby daytime exposure, while trees require maintenance before providing broad shade.
4	What comparison does paragraph 3 make between cooling centers and infrastructure changes? How does that comparison strengthen the central message?	Cooling centers offer quick protection but may be difficult to access, while infrastructure changes reach daily life more directly but cost money and take time. The comparison supports the claim that cities need both immediate aid and long-term change.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Extending public library hours would give teenagers more than a quiet place to study. It would make academic support and reliable internet available when many students are free, so the city should fund evening access at branches near high schools. At present, a student whose home lacks broadband may leave school, travel to a library, and find that it closes before an assignment is finished. Closing early especially affects students with jobs, family responsibilities, or long bus rides. As a result, a resource intended for everyone serves some schedules far better than others. An evening schedule would cost more than current operations, but its benefits differ from a simple homework room. Libraries can offer computers, research help, and safe public space in one location. First, the city could extend hours at two busiest branches for a semester. Then it could compare attendance and tutoring use with costs before expanding the program.

Accept equivalent names for organizational structures when students support them with accurate passage evidence. For the open task, look for a clear central message, purposeful use of at least two structures, and transitions that make the structural shifts understandable.