Shade for Play

Read how a writer uses reasons to request a school change.

3.P.EICC.2.e "Consume and produce texts in order to solve problems or influence decisions. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the facts and reasons that support the writer's request. Circle the sentence that tells what decision the writer wants the school to make.

A Request for Shade

1. To: Principal Ruiz. Our playground gets very hot at lunch. The slide and climbing bars can feel too warm to touch on sunny days. Many students wait by the wall instead of playing. We need a cooler place where everyone can move safely. I am writing to ask our school to add two shade sails over the open play area.

2. Shade sails are large pieces of strong cloth that block some sunlight. They are held up by poles and can cover a wide space. Our school already has poles near the blacktop, so workers may be able to use that area. During a class count last Tuesday, 18 of 24 students chose the small shady spot instead of the sunny field.

3. Two shade sails would give more students room to play outside. They could also help adults choose a safer lunch plan when the sun is bright. Please talk with the school council about buying and putting up shade sails this year. If the cost is too high, the council could ask families and local businesses to help raise money.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What problem does the writer want Principal Ruiz to solve?

2. What decision does the writer want the school to make?

3. Which fact from the letter supports the need for more shade?

4. How does the last paragraph try to influence the school council's decision?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence note to a school decision maker about a problem you want solved. Name the problem, ask for one decision, and include a fact or observation plus a reason to support your request.

ANSWER KEY

Shade for Play

GRADE 3 · 3.P.EICC.2.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the facts and reasons that support the writer's request. Circle the sentence that tells what decision the writer wants the school to make. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem does the writer want Principal Ruiz to solve?	**The playground is too hot at lunch, so many students cannot play comfortably or safely.**
2	What decision does the writer want the school to make?	**The school should add two shade sails over the open play area.**
3	Which fact from the letter supports the need for more shade?	**During a class count, 18 of 24 students chose the small shady spot instead of the sunny field.**
4	How does the last paragraph try to influence the school council's decision?	**It explains benefits of shade sails and suggests ways to raise money if they cost too much.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Dear Principal Ruiz, our library's comic book shelf is often empty by Friday. Please buy more comic books because students use them to practice reading during choice time. Our class counted 16 students waiting for a comic book last week.

Accept answers that identify the writer's problem, request, and supporting details from the passage. For Part 3, accept any three-sentence note with a clear problem, a specific request, and support that could help influence a decision.