Build a Strong Case

Notice how a writer uses support to shape a reader's thinking.

3.T.T.3 "Opinion Techniques: Explain, analyze, and use opinion techniques to shape understandings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's opinion in paragraph 1. Circle the counted detail in paragraph 2, and box the sentence in paragraph 3 that begins, "My answer is," to see how the writer supports an opinion and answers a worry.

A Covered Bike Rack

1. Our school should add a covered bike rack near the front gate. A roof over the rack would keep bikes dry on rainy days. It would also make biking to school feel easier for families. I think more students would choose bikes when they know their seats and backpacks will stay dry during the school day.

2. Last Tuesday, I counted twelve bikes locked to the small rack before classes began. Three bikes were leaned against a fence because the rack was full. This count shows that students already use bikes to get to school. A covered rack with more spaces could give every bike a safe place near the gate too.

3. Some people may worry that a covered rack would cost too much. My answer is to begin with a small roof over the rack we have now. The school could ask local hardware stores to donate materials for the project. Starting small makes the plan more realistic and still protects bikes from rain on wet days.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's opinion?

2. Which detail in paragraph 2 shows that the rack did not have enough room?

3. How does the writer's bike count help support the opinion?

4. What worry does the writer answer, and what is the writer's answer?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one improvement for your school. Write exactly three sentences: state your opinion, give one specific detail that supports it, and answer one worry someone might have.

ANSWER KEY

Build a Strong Case

GRADE 3 · 3.T.T.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's opinion in paragraph 1. Circle the counted detail in paragraph 2, and box the sentence in paragraph 3 that begins, “My answer is,” to see how the writer supports an opinion and answers a worry. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's opinion?	**The school should add a covered bike rack near the front gate.**
2	Which detail in paragraph 2 shows that the rack did not have enough room?	**Three bikes were leaned against a fence because the rack was full.**
3	How does the writer's bike count help support the opinion?	**It shows that students already bike to school and need more rack space.**
4	What worry does the writer answer, and what is the writer's answer?	**The worry is that the rack would cost too much. The writer says to begin with a small roof over the current rack.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water fountain near the playground. At recess, students wait in a long line at the fountain by the cafeteria. Some people may worry about cost, but the school could choose a simple fountain.

Accept equivalent wording for the claim, evidence, and response to the cost worry. For Part 3, accept any school improvement with exactly three sentences that includes an opinion, a specific supporting detail, and a response to a possible worry.