Trees Do Work

Notice how topic sentences and details organize information.

4.P.EICC.1.d "Build a repertoire of comprehension and composition skills, strategies, and techniques, drawing from them as needed to aid the interpretation and construction of texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the topic sentence in each paragraph 1, 2, and 3. Underline one detail in each paragraph that explains or supports its topic sentence.

City Trees at Work

1. On a hot day, a row of trees can make a sidewalk feel cooler. Leaves block some sunlight before it reaches pavement and buildings. Trees also release water vapor from their leaves, which can cool the air nearby. Because of these jobs, city trees do more than make streets look green. They help create cooler places for people to walk, play, and wait for buses.

2. Tree roots help during rainstorms, too. Soil around roots can soak up water, so less rain may rush across hard streets at once. This can lower the chance of some flooding. Roots also hold soil in place, helping prevent it from washing away. When planners choose places for trees, they can use these benefits to design neighborhoods that handle rain better.

3. City trees need care to keep doing this work. Young trees need water while their roots grow, and all trees need enough space for roots and branches. People can protect trees by keeping trash and harmful liquids out of the soil. A tree may seem still, but it is part of a busy system that cools air, manages water, and supports life in a city.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What topic does the first sentence of paragraph 1 introduce?

2. Name one detail from paragraph 1 that explains how trees cool an area.

3. What is the topic sentence of paragraph 2, and what idea does it introduce?

4. How does the final sentence work as a conclusion to the passage?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence informational paragraph about a useful object at school. Include a topic sentence, two detail sentences that explain its job, and a closing sentence that connects the details.

ANSWER KEY # Trees Do Work

GRADE 4 · 4.P.EICC.1.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the topic sentence in each paragraph 1, 2, and 3. Underline one detail in each paragraph that explains or supports its topic sentence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What topic does the first sentence of paragraph 1 introduce?	**City trees can make places cooler.**
2	Name one detail from paragraph 1 that explains how trees cool an area.	**Trees block sunlight before it reaches pavement and buildings, or trees release water vapor that can cool nearby air.**
3	What is the topic sentence of paragraph 2, and what idea does it introduce?	**"Tree roots help during rainstorms, too." It introduces how roots help manage rainwater and soil.**
4	How does the final sentence work as a conclusion to the passage?	**It brings together the main benefits of city trees: cooling air, managing water, and supporting life.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A classroom pencil sharpener helps students keep pencils ready to use. Its blades shave dull wood and graphite into a point. A container catches the shavings so they do not fall on the floor. By keeping pencils usable, the sharpener helps class work continue.

Accept equivalent topic sentences and supporting details that are clearly connected to the paragraph's main idea. For the writing task, accept any accurate school object paragraph with four sentences and the requested organization.