Save That Shade

Notice how facts, images, and opinions persuade a specific audience.

5.P.AC.2.a "Integrate literary, expository, and opinion (grades K-5) or rhetorical (grades 6-12) elements to appeal to target audiences and achieve specific purposes. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two facts, circle two opinions or requests, and put a star beside two vivid images or comparisons. Notice how these choices help persuade the town council to protect the oak.

A Tree in the Plan

1. Dear Riverbend Town Council, the old oak beside Maple Playground is more than a tree. Its wide branches make a green roof over the swings, and its rough trunk holds the scratches of many childhood summers. Please vote to protect it while the new parking lot is planned. Our neighborhood needs room for cars, but it also needs a shady place where families gather.

2. Oak trees help communities in practical ways. Their leaves cool nearby ground by blocking sunlight, and their roots soak up some rainwater that might otherwise run across streets. The playground has few shaded seats, so adults and younger children often stand in the sun. Saving this oak is the sensible choice because it serves people every day, not only on special occasions.

3. Imagine the first hot day of June with no leaves above the slide, only metal rails warming in the sun. We can build parking spaces in another part of the lot or design them around the oak. I ask the council to protect the tree and include it in the final plan. A careful decision now will keep Maple Playground useful, cooler, and welcoming for years.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the writer speaking to, and what action does the writer want that group to take?

2. Copy one vivid image from paragraph 1 or 3. How could that image help the council picture the writer's point?

3. What factual information in paragraph 2 supports saving the oak, and why might the council care about it?

4. How does the writer respond to the need for parking, and why could this make the message more persuasive?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences to your principal asking for a water bottle filling station. Include one vivid image or comparison, one fact, and one opinion or request that could help the principal make a fair decision.

ANSWER KEY

Save That Shade

GRADE 5 · 5.P.AC.2.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two facts, circle two opinions or requests, and put a star beside two vivid images or comparisons. Notice how these choices help persuade the town council to protect the oak. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the writer speaking to, and what action does the writer want that group to take?	**The writer speaks to the Riverbend Town Council and wants it to protect the oak tree in the final parking-lot plan.**
2	Copy one vivid image from paragraph 1 or 3. How could that image help the council picture the writer's point?	**"A green roof over the swings" helps the council picture the shade the oak gives the playground.**
3	What factual information in paragraph 2 supports saving the oak, and why might the council care about it?	**The leaves cool the ground and the roots soak up some rainwater. The council may care because these benefits help the playground and nearby streets.**
4	How does the writer respond to the need for parking, and why could this make the message more persuasive?	**The writer suggests placing parking spaces elsewhere or designing them around the oak. This recognizes the council's parking concern and offers a solution.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

By afternoon, the fountain line curls through the hall like a slow snake. A filling station lets students refill reusable bottles instead of using disposable ones. I believe our school should install one near the cafeteria so students can get water quickly.

Accept responses that clearly address the principal and ask for a filling station. The three sentences should include a vivid image or comparison, an accurate fact, and an opinion or request connected to the purpose.