Words That Move

Notice how a proposal guides a decision.

5.P.AC.2.b "Craft words and phrases in order to influence the responses, thoughts, decisions, and questions of the target audience and achieve a specific purpose. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three words or phrases meant to influence the council's thoughts or decision, then number the one question that asks the council to act.

A Shelter for Maple Street

1. Dear Riverbend City Council, our school bus stop on Maple Street has no shade. On hot afternoons, students wait beside a bare sidewalk while the sun beats down. A small shade shelter would give children and families a cooler, safer place to wait. Please picture a kindergartener standing there with a backpack and no place to rest.

2. A shelter would help more than comfort. It could protect riders from rain, and a marked waiting area could help drivers notice the stop sooner. Adding one simple shelter is a practical next step, not a huge construction project. For a modest cost, Riverbend could improve a daily routine for many young residents and families.

3. Council members, you can make Maple Street feel welcoming before the next hot season. Choose a shelter with a bench, a clear route for wheelchairs, and a roof that drains rain away from the sidewalk. Will you place this useful project in the next budget? Your decision can show students that their city plans for them.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which phrase asks the council to imagine a student's experience? What thought is the writer trying to create?

2. How might the phrases “not a huge construction project” and “For a modest cost” influence the council's decision?

3. Which words make council action sound both positive and urgent? Explain their effect.

4. What question does the writer ask the council, and what response does the writer want?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences to your principal requesting one school improvement. Include a phrase that helps the principal picture the need, a phrase that makes your idea seem practical, and one question that asks for a decision.

ANSWER KEY

Words That Move

GRADE 5 · 5.P.AC.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three words or phrases meant to influence the council's thoughts or decision, then number the one question that asks the council to act. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which phrase asks the council to imagine a student's experience? What thought is the writer trying to create?	**"Please picture a kindergartener standing there with a backpack and no place to rest." The writer wants council members to think about a young child's discomfort.**
2	How might the phrases "not a huge construction project" and "For a modest cost" influence the council's decision?	**They make the shelter seem affordable and manageable.**
3	Which words make council action sound both positive and urgent? Explain their effect.	**"Make Maple Street feel welcoming before the next hot season." These words connect the project to a positive result and suggest it should happen soon.**
4	What question does the writer ask the council, and what response does the writer want?	**"Will you place this useful project in the next budget?" The writer wants the council to include the shelter in its next budget.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Dear Principal Lee, picture a student trying to finish a library book while loud voices fill the hallway. A small reading nook with two chairs would be a practical use of an empty corner. Could you add this quiet space before winter?

Accept underlined phrases that reasonably try to shape the council's feelings, thoughts, or decision, along with the numbered question. For Part 3, accept any three-sentence request that includes a vivid need, a practical detail, and a question asking the principal to decide.