Words With Purpose

Analyze how a community notice uses structure, details, and word choice.

5.P.AC.3.a "Explore and create texts in various modes and genres, developing and applying knowledge of how specific features impact meaning, tone, style, purpose, and audience. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the title, the all-caps heading, and the fact box. Underline words or phrases that tell readers what to do.

Give Night Creatures a Break

1 On warm evenings, porch lights can draw many insects away from dark places where they feed, rest, or find mates. Moths and other nighttime insects may circle a bright bulb for a long time. This neighborhood notice asks families to try one small change: turn off outdoor lights when they are not needed at night.

2 TRY THIS TONIGHT: Before bed, look outside. Is a light shining on an empty driveway or yard? Switch it off, or use a timer so it does not stay on all night. If your family needs a safety light, ask an adult about a shield that points light downward. Small choices can make darker spaces.

3 FACT BOX: Many moths help pollinate flowers after sunset. Their caterpillars are food for birds and other animals. During Dark Sky Week, the library will collect family ideas on a lobby board. Write one idea on a paper star and place it on the board by Friday. One dark porch can become part of a brighter plan for nature.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the heading “TRY THIS TONIGHT” affect the tone of the notice?

2. The notice uses “your family” and tells readers to ask an adult. What audience do these details suggest? Explain.

3. How does the FACT BOX support the purpose of the notice, compared with directions alone?

4. The final sentence connects “one dark porch” to a “brighter plan.” What effect does this wording have on the style or tone?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 35 to 50 word announcement for students during Dark Sky Week. Include a short heading, one accurate fact from the notice, one action, and a closing line that fits a school audience.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the title, the all-caps heading, and the fact box. Underline words or phrases that tell readers what to do. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the heading "TRY THIS TONIGHT" affect the tone of the notice?	**It creates an immediate, active tone by urging readers to act soon.**
2	The notice uses "your family" and tells readers to ask an adult. What audience do these details suggest? Explain.	**It is aimed at families, including children who can take part with an adult.**
3	How does the FACT BOX support the purpose of the notice, compared with directions alone?	**It gives facts about why moths matter, helping readers see a reason to take action.**
4	The final sentence connects "one dark porch" to a "brighter plan." What effect does this wording have on the style or tone?	**The contrast creates a hopeful, memorable style and makes one small action seem part of a larger effort.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Darker Nights, Busier Wings Moths pollinate flowers after sunset, and their caterpillars feed birds. Before you leave for school tomorrow, ask an adult to turn off an unnecessary porch light. Add your best dark-sky idea to the library's paper-star board this week!

Accept reasonable analysis that connects a specific feature or word choice to audience, purpose, tone, or style. For the announcement, accept any 35 to 50 word response with a heading, an accurate passage fact, a clear action, and school-appropriate wording.