Words That Move

Notice how a writer shapes a principal's choice.

6.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 that make the covered bike rack sound useful. Circle each question or direct request that asks Principal Alvarez to act.

A Covered Rack for Bikes

1 Dear Principal Alvarez, our school needs a covered bike rack near the main entrance. Each morning, students who ride bicycles must leave them in an open area, where rain can soak seats and backpacks. A covered rack would give riders a dry, visible place to lock their bikes. Would you want to begin the school day with a wet backpack? This small change could show that our school respects students who choose an active way to travel.

2 Covered racks can also protect bicycles from weather, which can help keep metal parts drier after rain. Students may be more willing to ride when they know they have a secure place to park. More students arriving by bike could ease the crowded car line at the start of the day. Instead of treating bicycle riders as an afterthought, we can make room for them. Please consider placing the rack where adults can easily see it.

3 Our student council has already collected ideas for a location beside the entrance walkway, away from doors and ramps. The school could start with one modest rack and see how many spaces students use. This plan does not demand a major construction project, yet it could solve a daily problem for riders. Principal Alvarez, will you let the student council share its plan at the next school meeting? Your decision could make arriving by bicycle safer, simpler, and more welcoming.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the writer trying to influence? Give one detail that shows the writer chose words for that audience.

2. Copy one phrase that helps the principal picture a student problem. Explain how that phrase could influence the principal.

3. How does the phrase "one modest rack" make the plan sound more convincing to a decision maker?

4. What action does the question in the last paragraph ask Principal Alvarez to take? Why might the writer use a question instead of only making a statement?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence message to your principal asking for a shaded reading bench near the library entrance. Include a direct address, one vivid phrase or question, one practical detail, and a clear request.

ANSWER KEY

Words That Move

GRADE 6 · 6.P.AC.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three words or phrases that make the covered bike rack sound useful. Circle each question or direct request that asks Principal Alvarez to act. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the writer trying to influence? Give one detail that shows the writer chose words for that audience.	**The writer is trying to influence Principal Alvarez. The direct address "Dear Principal Alvarez" or "Principal Alvarez" shows the message is aimed at the principal.**
2	Copy one phrase that helps the principal picture a student problem. Explain how that phrase could influence the principal.	**Possible answer: "a wet backpack." It makes the problem concrete and may make the principal want to help students avoid it.**
3	How does the phrase "one modest rack" make the plan sound more convincing to a decision maker?	**It makes the plan sound manageable because the school can begin small and see how many spaces students use.**
4	What action does the question in the last paragraph ask Principal Alvarez to take? Why might the writer use a question instead of only making a statement?	**It asks the principal to let the student council share its plan at the next school meeting. A question directly invites the principal to make a decision or respond.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Alvarez, please add a shaded reading bench near the library entrance so students can read outside without squinting in bright sun. A bench in that quiet space would give students a calm place to finish a book or discuss an assignment. Will you ask the student council to help choose a safe location this month?

Accept other accurate quotations and explanations that connect the writer's word choices to influencing Principal Alvarez. For the open task, accept varied ideas if the response has exactly three sentences and includes all required persuasive elements.