Shade Street Study

Use context clues to interpret general, academic, and specialized vocabulary.

7.L.V.1 "General, Academic, & Specialized Vocabulary: Use a variety of approaches to continuously build vocabulary across a range of real-life, academic..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline four words or phrases that seem academic or specialized, then number 1 through 4 beside nearby clues that help you infer each meaning.

Mapping Cooler Blocks

1 On a July morning, Maya joined volunteers at a neighborhood tree survey. They recorded the diameter of each trunk, noted broken branches, and mapped places with little shade. Their clipboard listed a canopy score, a measure based on how much ground tree leaves cover when viewed from above. The group compared two blocks. One had mature oaks and cooler sidewalks. The other had mostly pavement, so heat from the sun lingered long after noon each day.

2 Later, the volunteers entered their observations into a spreadsheet. A city planner would use the data to prioritize planting sites, especially near bus stops and apartment buildings. The planner warned that a single shady corner was not enough evidence to support a broad conclusion. Instead, the team needed repeated observations from many streets. This careful method could reveal a pattern, such as whether blocks with fewer trees consistently had warmer pavement. The results might guide the city's budget for watering young trees.

3 At the next meeting, Maya proposed a pilot project on the hottest block. A pilot project tests an idea on a small scale before a larger effort begins. The group planned to plant five trees, measure sidewalk temperatures each week, and compare the readings with those from a nearby block. If the pilot showed a useful change, officials could expand the project. Maya also suggested permeable pavement, which lets rainwater soak through instead of rushing into storm drains. Her proposal connected tree shade, water flow, and public spending.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what does lingered most likely mean? Which words in the paragraph helped you infer its meaning?

2. What does prioritize most likely mean in paragraph 2? Explain using the planner's use of the data.

3. What does evidence most likely mean in paragraph 2? Use the planner's warning to support your answer.

4. What does proposal mean in the final sentence? Name two parts of Maya's proposal.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences proposing a small improvement for your school or neighborhood. Use one academic word, such as prioritize, evidence, or compare, and one specialized word related to your topic, with nearby details that make both meanings clear.

ANSWER KEY

Shade Street Study

GRADE 7 · 7.L.V.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline four words or phrases that seem academic or specialized, then number 1 through 4 beside nearby clues that help you infer each meaning. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what does lingered most likely mean? Which words in the paragraph helped you infer its meaning?	**Lingered means stayed or remained. The phrase "long after noon" is the context clue.**
2	What does prioritize most likely mean in paragraph 2? Explain using the planner's use of the data.	**Prioritize means give first attention or importance to. The planner uses data to decide which planting sites should come first.**
3	What does evidence most likely mean in paragraph 2? Use the planner's warning to support your answer.	**Evidence means information or observations that can support a conclusion. One shady corner is not enough, so the team needs repeated observations from many streets.**
4	What does proposal mean in the final sentence? Name two parts of Maya's proposal.	**A proposal is a suggested plan. Maya proposed a pilot tree-planting project with temperature comparisons and suggested permeable pavement.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should prioritize a compost bin near the cafeteria, placing it first because lunch scraps fill several trash cans each day. Students can collect organic waste, such as apple cores and vegetable peels, for composting. We can compare weekly trash-bag totals to gather evidence about the change.

Accept reasonable meanings that match the passage context and cite relevant clues. For Part 3, accept any three-sentence proposal that uses an academic word and a topic-specific specialized word clearly in context.