Two Reasons to Read

Choose texts that connect to you and your learning.

7.P.EICC.1.c "Select, read, and write texts of personal interest and academic relevance to grade-level texts and topics. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show why Maya was personally interested in a text. Circle details that show why a text was useful for her watershed research.

Maya Chooses a Source

1. During a science unit on watersheds, Maya needed a grade-level text for a short research project. She first noticed a magazine article called "The River Beneath the Street" because she rides her bike past storm drains after rain. The article explained how paved surfaces send water and pollutants into streams. Its headings, map, and 900-word length made it manageable, but Maya did not choose it yet. She wanted to see whether another text connected more closely to the project question about protecting local water.

2. At the library, she found a book chapter, "Beavers, Dams, and Healthy Streams." Maya had watched beavers near her aunt's cabin, so the topic interested her. More important, the chapter described how dams slow water, create ponds, and affect other living things. A diagram showed changes in a stream habitat, and a glossary explained words such as sediment. Maya checked the publication date and found that the book was published by a university press in 2023. These features made it useful for her research.

3. Maya selected the beaver chapter. It matched the class topic because it gave evidence about how one animal can change a watershed. It also held her interest because she could connect the information to a place she knew. Before reading, Maya wrote two questions in her notebook: How can a beaver dam reduce erosion? When might a dam cause problems for people? Her choice was not based only on liking beavers. She chose a text that could help her investigate a school topic.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which text did Maya select after considering both her interest and her research needs?

2. What detail made "The River Beneath the Street" personally interesting to Maya?

3. Name two features of the beaver chapter that made it useful for Maya's watershed research.

4. Why was liking beavers not enough reason for Maya to choose the chapter?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a grade-level text you would be willing to read. Write exactly three sentences: name the text, explain why it interests you personally, and explain how it could help you learn about a class topic, including one useful text feature.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 7 · 7.P.EICC.1.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that show why Maya was personally interested in a text. Circle details that show why a text was useful for her watershed research. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which text did Maya select after considering both her interest and her research needs?	**She selected the book chapter, "Beavers, Dams, and Healthy Streams."**
2	What detail made "The River Beneath the Street" personally interesting to Maya?	**She rides her bike past storm drains after rain.**
3	Name two features of the beaver chapter that made it useful for Maya's watershed research.	**Answers may include its explanation of how dams affect streams and living things, its stream-habitat diagram, its glossary, and its 2023 university press publication.**
4	Why was liking beavers not enough reason for Maya to choose the chapter?	**The text also needed to provide evidence that could help her investigate the class topic about watersheds.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would choose The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, a memoir by William Kamkwamba. I am interested in how people build useful machines from recycled materials. It connects to a science study of energy because it explains how a windmill can use moving air to produce electricity, and photographs help me understand the design.

Accept answers that identify both a personal connection and a clear academic purpose supported by a detail from the passage. For Part 3, accept any appropriate grade-level text and three sentences that meet all listed requirements.