Heading Hunt

Use headings and first sentences to locate useful information.

8.P.EICC.3.b "Scan and skim the text, making note of structures and sections that might be most useful. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the three section headings and underline the first sentence after each heading. Then write 1 beside the section you would read first to learn why city blocks stay warm, 2 beside the next most useful section, and 3 beside the last.

Why Cities Stay Hot

1. WHAT IS AN URBAN HEAT ISLAND? On a summer afternoon, a city block can feel hotter than a nearby park. This difference is called the urban heat island effect. Pavement, roofs, and other built surfaces often absorb sunlight and release heat slowly. Because cities contain many of these surfaces, they can remain warm after sunset. Scientists study this effect to understand how heat changes daily life, especially during heat waves, and to plan safer neighborhoods for people without reliable air conditioning.

2. WHY SURFACES HOLD HEAT. Dark asphalt absorbs more solar energy than pale pavement, while trees shade the ground and cool air as water evaporates from their leaves. Buildings can also reduce wind that would otherwise carry heat away. At night, concrete and brick release stored heat, so temperatures may stay higher in dense neighborhoods. This section explains the physical causes of the effect, not the health risks or possible solutions that residents may face during long, humid summer days.

3. WAYS TO COOL A BLOCK. City planners and residents can lower local temperatures by planting shade trees, using lighter-colored roofing, and replacing some pavement with gardens or porous surfaces. These changes do not stop a regional heat wave, but they can make streets and homes less hot. Some cities map the hottest areas first, then focus resources where people have fewer cooling options. The final section lists responses and shows how communities can use temperature information to guide practical decisions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Without reading every word, which section heading would help you find a definition of the urban heat island effect?

2. A reader wants the reason heat may remain after sunset. Which section should the reader skim, and what detail gives the reason?

3. Which section would be most useful to a community group choosing local cooling actions? Give two actions from that section.

4. A planner wants to decide where to focus cooling resources. Which section contains the best detail, and what sequence word helps locate it?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a new three-section article titled "Preparing for a Thunderstorm." Write three useful section headings in order. Next to each heading, write a 5- to 10-word note telling a skimmer what that section would contain.

ANSWER KEY

Heading Hunt

GRADE 8 · 8.P.EICC.3.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the three section headings and underline the first sentence after each heading. Then write 1 beside the section you would read first to learn why city blocks stay warm, 2 beside the next most useful section, and 3 beside the last. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Without reading every word, which section heading would help you find a definition of the urban heat island effect?	**WHAT IS AN URBAN HEAT ISLAND?**
2	A reader wants the reason heat may remain after sunset. Which section should the reader skim, and what detail gives the reason?	**WHY SURFACES HOLD HEAT; concrete and brick release stored heat at night.**
3	Which section would be most useful to a community group choosing local cooling actions? Give two actions from that section.	**WAYS TO COOL A BLOCK; answers may include planting shade trees, using lighter-colored roofing, replacing pavement with gardens, or using porous surfaces.**
4	A planner wants to decide where to focus cooling resources. Which section contains the best detail, and what sequence word helps locate it?	**WAYS TO COOL A BLOCK; the sequence word is "first."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before the Storm: Check forecasts, charge devices, and bring outdoor items inside. During Lightning: Stay indoors and avoid corded electronics and plumbing. After the Storm: Report damage and avoid downed power lines.

Accept headings that organize the topic in a logical order and notes that accurately preview each section. Each note should contain 5 to 10 words and help a reader quickly decide where to find information.