Build a Stronger Proposal

Match each detail to the part of a proposal where it matters most.

8.P.EICC.4.d "Link ideas and information to the organization plan, highlighting ideas and information that are most relevant, useful, and impactful. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that is most useful for that paragraph's purpose. Circle the detail that would have the strongest effect on a principal deciding whether to try the idea.

A Cafeteria Waste Pilot

1. At Jefferson Middle School, the cafeteria sends about 180 pounds of food scraps and disposable items to the landfill each week. A student survey found that many students choose wrapped plastic forks even when washable metal forks are available. The school also pays for extra trash pickups after busy weeks. These costs and waste matter because landfill space is limited, and producing single-use items uses energy and materials. The cafeteria needs a practical way to cut waste without making lunch slower or less sanitary.

2. Starting in October, cafeteria staff could place clearly labeled tubs beside the tray-return area. One tub would collect unopened packaged food for the community food pantry, following local food-safety rules. Another would collect fruit peels and other compostable scraps. Student volunteers could stand nearby during the first week to explain the choices. Staff members would weigh the collected material after each lunch and record the results on a shared chart. Metal forks would remain in their usual dispenser so students could choose them easily.

3. After four weeks, the school could compare the chart with its earlier trash records. A drop from 180 pounds to 105 pounds per week would show that less material was headed to the landfill. The chart could also show whether students used the tubs correctly and whether lunch lines stayed moving. If the pilot reduced waste without creating delays, the principal could use the results to decide whether to expand the system to every lunch period.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What organization plan does the passage follow? State the main purpose of each paragraph.

2. A writer wants to add the fact that trash cans overflow after lunch on Fridays. In which paragraph would that fact be most useful? Explain why.

3. Which two details in paragraph 2 best explain what people would do during the pilot? Why is the weekly waste total less useful in this paragraph?

4. For a principal deciding whether expansion is worthwhile, which is more impactful: the directions for placing tubs or the results showing a change in weekly landfill material? Cite the figures and explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one school improvement, such as quieter hallways or safer bike storage. Write a three-part proposal with two sentences in each part: describe the need, explain the plan, and give the result or evidence that would guide a decision. Put an asterisk beside the most impactful detail.

ANSWER KEY

Build a Stronger Proposal

GRADE 8 · 8.P.EICC.4.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that is most useful for that paragraph's purpose. Circle the detail that would have the strongest effect on a principal deciding whether to try the idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What organization plan does the passage follow? State the main purpose of each paragraph.	**Paragraph 1 establishes the waste problem and need. Paragraph 2 explains the pilot's actions. Paragraph 3 describes evidence the school could use to judge and expand the pilot.**
2	A writer wants to add the fact that trash cans overflow after lunch on Fridays. In which paragraph would that fact be most useful? Explain why.	**Paragraph 1, because overflowing cans would add evidence that the school has a current waste problem that needs attention.**
3	Which two details in paragraph 2 best explain what people would do during the pilot? Why is the weekly waste total less useful in this paragraph?	**The labeled collection tubs and staff weighing and recording material explain actions during the pilot. The weekly waste total is less useful there because it shows the size of the existing problem, not how the pilot will operate.**
4	For a principal deciding whether expansion is worthwhile, which is more impactful: the directions for placing tubs or the results showing a change in weekly landfill material? Cite the figures and explain.	**The results are more impactful. A change from 180 pounds to 105 pounds per week gives measurable evidence that the pilot reduced landfill waste.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Need: Students often cannot find a quiet place to read during study hall. *A check of the library sign-in sheet showed that all 24 seats were filled on 18 of 20 school days. Plan: The school could open an unused conference room during study hall and add 12 desks. A teacher on study-hall duty could supervise the room and record how many seats students use. Evidence: After one month, the school could compare the room's attendance with the library's crowded days. If at least eight students use the room each day, the principal could decide to keep it open.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the passage's problem, plan, and decision-evidence organization. For Part 3, accept another logical school topic if each section contains relevant information and the asterisk identifies a specific, decision-useful detail.