Draft With Direction

Study how a draft blends evidence, audience, and craft.

8.P.EICC.4.e "Construct an initial draft by integrating ideas and information; selecting words, phrases, and sentences; and incorporating craft techniques that will best achieve the purpose of the text and resonate with the target audience. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that give information or evidence. Circle two words or phrases chosen to influence the principal and student council, then put a star by one sentence that creates a clear picture in your mind.

Shade for the Courtyard

1. At lunch, our courtyard turns into a bright, hot square of concrete. In a May student survey, 68 of 90 respondents said they avoided the courtyard on sunny days. I am asking our principal and student council to add three shade sails above the tables. This change would give more students a place to eat, read, and talk outside. Instead of watching empty benches bake in the noon sun, we could use the space our school already has.

2. Shade sails are stretched pieces of outdoor fabric that block part of the sun while leaving air open above the tables. Our custodian noted that the courtyard has four metal posts near the seating area, so installers may be able to use that location after checking the structure. The student council could request price estimates from local installers and compare them before choosing a plan. Careful planning matters because a useful project must be safe as well as welcoming.

3. Imagine the first warm Friday in September. Students could sit beneath cool triangles of shade, finish homework before practice, or share lunch without squinting at the sky. Principal Rivera and council members, please place this idea on your next meeting agenda. If we gather costs, check safety requirements, and listen to student needs, we can turn a silent, sun-soaked corner into a courtyard that invites people in. This small improvement could make outdoor time available to more students throughout the day.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the draft written for, and what does the writer ask this audience to do?

2. Identify two pieces of information the writer includes. Explain how each one supports the proposal.

3. Copy one phrase that creates a sensory image of the courtyard. What effect does the phrase have?

4. How does the final paragraph make the request direct and memorable? Use one detail from the paragraph in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 90-120 word initial draft to Principal Chen proposing a water-refill station outside the gym. Include both planning details, the nearest fountain is 140 steps away and 42 of 60 athletes surveyed sometimes skip a drink because practice begins quickly, plus one sensory detail and a direct call to action.

ANSWER KEY

Draft With Direction

GRADE 8 · 8.P.EICC.4.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that give information or evidence. Circle two words or phrases chosen to influence the principal and student council, then put a star by one sentence that creates a clear picture in your mind. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the draft written for, and what does the writer ask this audience to do?	**The draft is written for the principal and student council. The writer asks them to add three shade sails above the courtyard tables.**
2	Identify two pieces of information the writer includes. Explain how each one supports the proposal.	**The survey result, 68 of 90 students avoiding the courtyard on sunny days, shows a need for shade. The custodian's note about four nearby metal posts suggests a possible location for installing the sails.**
3	Copy one phrase that creates a sensory image of the courtyard. What effect does the phrase have?	**Possible answer: "a bright, hot square of concrete." It helps the audience picture and feel how uncomfortable the courtyard is in the sun.**
4	How does the final paragraph make the request direct and memorable? Use one detail from the paragraph in your answer.	**It directly addresses "Principal Rivera and council members" and asks them to place the idea on the next meeting agenda. Its image of "cool triangles of shade" and a "sun-soaked corner" makes the benefit memorable.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Chen, our athletes need a water-refill station outside the gym. The nearest fountain is 140 steps away, and 42 of 60 athletes surveyed said they sometimes skip a drink because practice begins quickly. After running drills, students return with dry mouths and jerseys dark with sweat. A refill station would let them fill reusable bottles without missing instructions, and it could reduce plastic bottle waste. Please ask the facilities team for installation costs and add this proposal to the next school improvement meeting. Clean water should be close when students need it most.

Accept relevant evidence, audience-aware word choices, and reasonable explanations of craft techniques in the passage questions. For the draft, check that it is 90-120 words, uses both planning details accurately, includes sensory language, and makes a direct request to Principal Chen.