Notice With a Purpose

Analyze how a public notice serves its readers.

8.P.ST.2.a "Develop and apply knowledge of author, audience, and context to discern and establish the purpose of texts being interpreted or constructed and to evaluate the extent to which those texts achieve those purposes. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or phrases that show who should read this notice, circle details that reveal the situation, and number three details that help readers act. Use your marks to decide the notice's purpose and whether it works.

Willow Creek Restoration Notice

1. To: Residents of Pine Street and nearby blocks. On Saturday, April 18, the City Water Department will begin restoring the banks of Willow Creek behind the recreation center. Recent heavy rains have washed away soil near the walking path. Workers will place native plants and rocks along the edge to slow erosion. The project is funded by a state grant, so there is no new fee for local households. Construction vehicles will use the recreation center's east parking lot.

2. To protect visitors, the creekside path will be closed from April 18 through May 9. The playground, basketball court, and main entrance will remain open. Please use the west lot if you drive to the center, and keep children away from marked work areas. A map of the temporary route is posted at the center and on the city website. The department will update the website each Friday if weather changes the schedule. Questions can be sent to creekproject@city.gov.

3. Neighbors are invited to a brief project meeting on Tuesday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the recreation center's community room. Engineers will show the planting plan, explain the work schedule, and answer questions about access to the creek. This notice is being delivered to nearby homes because residents may need to change where they park or walk for three weeks. By sharing dates, routes, and contact information, the department hopes people can plan safely and understand why the restoration is needed.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the main audience for this notice? Use one detail from the text to support your answer.

2. What situation caused the City Water Department to send this notice?

3. What is the notice's main purpose? Explain using two details from the passage.

4. How well does the notice achieve its purpose? Give a claim and support it with two specific details.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 50-70-word announcement for students who ride the bus. Inform them that buses will use a different entrance for one week because paving work blocks the usual bus loop. Make your purpose clear and include at least three details your audience needs.

ANSWER KEY

Notice With a Purpose

GRADE 8 · 8.P.ST.2.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words or phrases that show who should read this notice, circle details that reveal the situation, and number three details that help readers act. Use your marks to decide the notice's purpose and whether it works. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the main audience for this notice? Use one detail from the text to support your answer.	**The main audience is residents near Willow Creek, especially people on Pine Street and nearby blocks. The notice is delivered to nearby homes because residents may need to change where they park or walk.**
2	What situation caused the City Water Department to send this notice?	**Heavy rains washed away soil near the walking path, so the department plans to restore the creek banks and close part of the area during construction.**
3	What is the notice's main purpose? Explain using two details from the passage.	**Its purpose is to inform nearby residents and visitors about the restoration and help them plan safely. It gives closure dates, alternate parking information, a temporary route, and a contact email.**
4	How well does the notice achieve its purpose? Give a claim and support it with two specific details.	**It achieves its purpose well because it gives clear dates for the path closure and tells drivers to use the west lot. It also explains where to find route updates and how to ask questions.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Bus riders, from Monday, October 6, through Friday, October 10, buses will enter through the north gate because paving crews are repairing the usual bus loop. Wait at your regular stop, but walk to the north gate after school. Staff members will direct you, and buses will leave from there at their normal times each day.

Accept answers that identify nearby residents and recreation center visitors as the audience, explain that the notice informs and prepares them for restoration work, and use accurate text evidence. For the writing task, accept a clear bus-rider announcement of 50-70 words with a stated purpose and at least three useful details.