Whose Ride Counts?

Use author, audience, and context to identify a point of view.

8.P.ST.2.b "Draw from knowledge of author, audience, and context to discern and establish a clear point of view or unique perspective when interpreting and constructing texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that reveal who the author is and what experience shapes the author's view. Circle words that identify the audience or situation, then number the author's reasons for the requested action.

Public Comment: Keep the Route 6 Stop

(1) I am writing as an eighth grader who rides Route 6 from Lincoln Middle School to my apartment every afternoon. The transit board is considering moving our stop two blocks west to make buses faster. On paper, two blocks may seem small. At 3:20, though, they mean crossing Maple Avenue, where cars turn quickly past the grocery store. I want the board to see the change through the eyes of students carrying backpacks, instruments, and sports gear, not only through a schedule chart.

(2) Keeping the stop in place would not solve every problem on Route 6. Buses still arrive late when traffic backs up near the stadium. Yet the current stop has a painted crosswalk, a traffic signal, and a covered bench. Last winter, I waited there during heavy rain with six other students. A stop farther west has no signal and no shelter. For riders who can drive or work from home, that difference might be easy to miss. For us, it shapes whether the trip feels safe.

(3) Please measure more than minutes saved before voting. Ask students who use Route 6 to map their walks and describe what they carry. The board could keep the stop where it is, add a bus-only signal near Maple Avenue, or test a later departure time. I understand that reliable buses matter to everyone. Still, a faster route should not shift the hardest part of the trip onto young riders. A public service works best when the people with the least choice are heard first.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the author's point of view about moving the Route 6 stop? Use the author's role and one passage detail in your answer.

2. Who is the intended audience? Give two clues from the passage that support your answer.

3. What situation caused the author to write this public comment, and what does the author want the audience to do?

4. How does the author recognize a concern the audience may have, then explain a different perspective?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 90- to 120-word public comment to the school library advisory committee, which is considering removing graphic novel shelves to create more quiet study space. State your role, take a clear position, and use at least one concrete detail that shows your unique perspective.

ANSWER KEY

Whose Ride Counts?

GRADE 8 · 8.P.ST.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that reveal who the author is and what experience shapes the author's view. Circle words that identify the audience or situation, then number the author's reasons for the requested action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the author's point of view about moving the Route 6 stop? Use the author's role and one passage detail in your answer.	**The author, an eighth-grade Route 6 rider, opposes moving the stop because students would need to cross busy Maple Avenue and wait at a stop without a signal or shelter.**
2	Who is the intended audience? Give two clues from the passage that support your answer.	**The intended audience is the transit board. The author says the board is considering the move and asks it to act before voting.**
3	What situation caused the author to write this public comment, and what does the author want the audience to do?	**The transit board is considering moving the stop two blocks west to make buses faster. The author wants the board to keep the current stop or choose another solution that protects student riders.**
4	How does the author recognize a concern the audience may have, then explain a different perspective?	**The author recognizes that reliable, faster buses matter to everyone. The author then argues that speeding up the route should not make the trip less safe or harder for young riders.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I am a student who uses the library during lunch because the cafeteria is too loud for me to read. The advisory committee is considering removing the graphic novel shelves to create more quiet study space. Please keep the shelves and place two small study tables near the windows instead. Last month, I saw three students choose books from that section, then sit quietly and read. A library should support focused work, but it should also help students find books they want to open. From a reader's view, fewer choices can make a quiet room less useful.

For the open response, look for a clear audience, context, position, and a concrete detail that makes the writer's perspective distinct.