Voices at the Wall

Infer purpose and audience from a writer's choices.

8.T.C.1 "Purpose & Audience: Analyze the impact of purpose and audience on a wide variety of texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or details that show who each message is meant for. Circle words or details that show what the writer wants readers to think, do, or know.

One Wall, Three Messages

1. COLOR THE BLOCK! On Saturday, May 18, the blank wall behind Franklin Middle School will become a neighborhood mural. Pick up a brush between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., choose a paint color, and add a shape, pattern, or small picture. No art experience is needed. Wear clothes that can get messy, bring a water bottle, and invite a friend. Music will play during the work as the wall changes from gray to a bright shared design.

2. Dear Ms. Alvarez, Our art club is planning the mural day near Franklin Middle School. We need drop cloths, paint trays, and work gloves for volunteers. Could Greenway Hardware lend these supplies for one afternoon or offer a discount? In return, we will place your store's name on the event sign and thank Greenway in our neighborhood newsletter. I can stop by Tuesday with a supply list. Thank you for considering our request, Jordan Lee, Art Club Treasurer.

3. Neighbors on Pine Street, mural day will bring extra activity to the block on May 18. The sidewalk beside the school will stay open, but the two parking spaces nearest the wall will be closed from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. A volunteer will direct drivers around the paint-delivery truck at 9:00. If you pass the site, please keep pets away from wet paint and use the opposite side of the sidewalk. Questions may be sent to muralday@franklin.org.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is most likely to respond to paragraph 1? Use two details from the message to support your answer.

2. What response does the writer of paragraph 2 want from the reader? Identify two details that reveal this goal.

3. Compare paragraphs 1 and 2. How does the writer change tone and details for the likely reader of each message?

4. What is the main goal of paragraph 3? Give two details that show this goal.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a school event or need. Write two 35 to 45 word messages with the same goal, one for students and one for adults. Change at least two choices, such as word choice, details, tone, or format, to fit each reader.

ANSWER KEY

Voices at the Wall

GRADE 8 · 8.T.C.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words or details that show who each message is meant for. Circle words or details that show what the writer wants readers to think, do, or know. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is most likely to respond to paragraph 1? Use two details from the message to support your answer.	**Students or young people are most likely to respond. Details may include the energetic heading, the invitation to bring a friend, the music, and the simple directions to choose colors and add pictures.**
2	What response does the writer of paragraph 2 want from the reader? Identify two details that reveal this goal.	**The writer wants Greenway Hardware to lend supplies or offer a discount. The message lists needed items and asks whether the store could lend them or offer a discount.**
3	Compare paragraphs 1 and 2. How does the writer change tone and details for the likely reader of each message?	**Paragraph 1 uses an excited tone, short action-focused directions, and details about music and friends, which fit student volunteers. Paragraph 2 uses a formal greeting and signature, specific supply needs, and a benefit for the store, which fit a business representative.**
4	What is the main goal of paragraph 3? Give two details that show this goal.	**Its goal is to inform nearby residents about changes and safety during mural day. Details include the parking-space closure, the truck detour, the warning about wet paint, and the contact email.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

For students: Got books you have already read? Bring clean, gently used books to Room 204 by Friday. Your donation can help fill the library cart for younger readers. Ask your friends to bring mysteries, comics, or adventure stories too. For adults: Families and staff members may donate clean, gently used books to Room 204 by Friday. These donations will stock a library cart for younger readers. Please consider adding a book during your regular school visit, and share this request with neighbors.

Accept reasonable audience and purpose inferences when students support them with specific wording or details from the passage. For Part 3, check that each message is 35 to 45 words, has the same goal, addresses a different audience, and makes at least two purposeful changes.