Shade, Data, Decisions

Annotate claims and evidence to track a complex idea.

9.P.EICC.3 "Comprehension Strategies: Engage with a range of complex texts for a variety of tasks and purposes, accessing and using strategies for comprehension* before, during, and after reading as part of the meaning-making process."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline one sentence in each paragraph that states a key claim. Circle one phrase in each paragraph that complicates or qualifies that claim, so you can track how the writer develops a careful solution.

Who Gets Relief From Heat?

1. On a July afternoon, two blocks in the same city can feel like different climates. Dark pavement and rooftops absorb sunlight, then release heat slowly after sunset. This urban heat island effect can make nighttime temperatures especially dangerous because bodies have less chance to recover. Trees can cool a street through shade and through transpiration, the release of water vapor from leaves. Yet a map dotted with green does not automatically show which residents receive relief. To understand heat risk, planners must examine where trees stand, who uses nearby spaces, and when heat is most intense.

2. That question matters because heat is not distributed evenly. In many U.S. cities, neighborhoods shaped by past redlining have fewer trees and more paved surfaces than wealthier areas. Redlining was a discriminatory housing practice that restricted loans and investment in many communities of color. Its effects can persist in street layouts, housing conditions, and public resources. Still, tree planting is not a simple repair. A young tree provides limited shade for years, and poorly maintained trees may die. Planners also need residents' knowledge about bus stops, playgrounds, and apartments where shade is urgently needed.

3. Some cities are beginning to combine temperature measurements with community reports. In Phoenix, Arizona, volunteers have helped collect heat data by driving planned routes with sensors, showing that temperatures can vary sharply across short distances. Such data can guide investments, but numbers alone cannot decide what is fair. A cooler sidewalk may matter differently to a delivery worker, an older adult waiting for a bus, or a child walking home. Effective plans therefore pair scientific measurements with public meetings, maintenance funding, and protections against displacement. Cooling a neighborhood should not make longtime residents unable to remain there.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Before reading paragraph 2, what topic could you predict would come next from the end of paragraph 1? Quote the words that gave you that clue.

2. Which sentence in paragraph 2 most clearly challenges the idea that planting trees alone will solve heat problems? Explain how one later detail supports that sentence.

3. How does the Phoenix example help the writer's reasoning about planning for heat?

4. After reading all three paragraphs, state the central idea in one sentence.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use your markings to write a three-sentence recommendation to a city council about reducing neighborhood heat. State one action the city should take, support it with two details from the passage, and address one concern the city should plan for.

ANSWER KEY

Shade, Data, Decisions

GRADE 9 · 9.P.EICC.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

As you read, underline one sentence in each paragraph that states a key claim. Circle one phrase in each paragraph that complicates or qualifies that claim, so you can track how the writer develops a careful solution. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Before reading paragraph 2, what topic could you predict would come next from the end of paragraph 1? Quote the words that gave you that clue.	**A prediction about unequal access to cooling or which people receive relief. The clue is "which residents receive relief."**
2	Which sentence in paragraph 2 most clearly challenges the idea that planting trees alone will solve heat problems? Explain how one later detail supports that sentence.	**"Still, tree planting is not a simple repair." A later detail explains that young trees give limited shade for years, poorly maintained trees may die, or residents know where shade is urgently needed.**
3	How does the Phoenix example help the writer's reasoning about planning for heat?	**It shows that temperatures can differ sharply over short distances, so temperature data can help guide targeted investments. The paragraph also explains that data must be combined with community knowledge and fairness concerns.**
4	After reading all three paragraphs, state the central idea in one sentence.	**Reducing urban heat requires planners to use scientific data and residents' knowledge to create fair, lasting cooling solutions.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

City council should prioritize shade projects where heat risk and daily exposure are greatest. Temperature sensors can locate hot blocks, while residents can identify unshaded bus stops, playgrounds, and apartments that data may not fully explain. The city should fund long-term tree care and protect residents from displacement so that cooling benefits the people already living there.

Accept varied annotations when students identify reasonable key claims and qualifying phrases from each paragraph. For the open response, accept different recommendations if they include one action, two accurate passage-based details, and one relevant concern.