Draft With Purpose

Analyze how a proposal draft matches words and craft to an audience.

9.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 three words or images meant to persuade the school board, circle two pieces of practical evidence, and number the sentence with the clearest call to action.

A Garden That Works

1. Members of the Riverton School Board, our unused courtyard is more than a patch of cracked soil between buildings. At lunch, students hurry past it because there is nowhere to sit, study, or notice the outdoors. I propose that the board turn this space into a small native-plant garden with benches and a gravel path. Instead of looking like a forgotten corner, the courtyard could become an outdoor classroom where biology students observe insects and art students sketch changing colors. This plan would give students a calm place while making practical use of land the school already owns.

2. Native plants are species that grow naturally in a region, and they can suit a school garden for clear reasons. Once established, many native plants need less watering than plants selected for distant climates. Flowering species can supply nectar and pollen for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. Deep-rooted native grasses can also help soil absorb rainwater. The garden does not need an expensive overhaul: the environmental club could start with three raised beds, and science classes could record which visitors arrive. A phased plan lets the board control costs, test the design, and build community participation.

3. Picture the courtyard next April: purple coneflowers lean toward the sun, a student reads on a bench, and a bee moves from bloom to bloom. That image is not a decoration; it shows what our school could gain from a modest decision. Board members, please approve a planning meeting with students, a science teacher, and the facilities manager. We can choose locally appropriate plants, set a budget, and create a care schedule before breaking ground. Let us replace a space students avoid with a space they use, study, and protect.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the intended audience, and what action does the writer want that audience to take?

2. What practical concern does the writer address with the phrase “control costs,” and why would that concern matter to the audience?

3. Quote one image from paragraph 3 that helps readers picture the proposed garden. What effect does the image create?

4. How does the draft combine student observations, factual information, and a specific plan to support its purpose?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 90 to 120 word initial draft paragraph to a school decision-maker about a different improvement you want at school. Include one observation, one accurate fact, a vivid craft technique, and a direct request.

ANSWER KEY

Draft With Purpose

GRADE 9 · 9.P.EICC.4.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three words or images meant to persuade the school board, circle two pieces of practical evidence, and number the sentence with the clearest call to action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the intended audience, and what action does the writer want that audience to take?	**The audience is the Riverton School Board. The writer wants the board to approve planning for a native-plant garden in the courtyard.**
2	What practical concern does the writer address with the phrase "control costs," and why would that concern matter to the audience?	**The writer addresses the cost of the project. School board members must consider how school money is spent.**
3	Quote one image from paragraph 3 that helps readers picture the proposed garden. What effect does the image create?	**Possible answer: "purple coneflowers lean toward the sun." The image makes the future garden seem inviting and concrete.**
4	How does the draft combine student observations, factual information, and a specific plan to support its purpose?	**It begins with students avoiding the courtyard, adds facts about native plants and costs, then asks for a planning meeting with clear next steps.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Ortiz, our cafeteria entrance becomes a traffic jam after lunch because students line up at one fountain to refill bottles. Please install a bottle-refill station near the library, where students can fill a reusable bottle without blocking the hallway. Reusable bottles are designed to be filled many times, so an easy refill option can reduce the need for single-use plastic bottles. Imagine a line that moves like a stream instead of a knot. If we ask the student council to survey locations and the custodian to review maintenance needs, we can choose a practical site before ordering equipment.

Accept equivalent evidence, quoted language, and explanations that connect choices to persuading the school board. For the open response, look for a clear audience and purpose, integrated observation and accurate information, purposeful language or imagery, and a direct request.