

Evidence Trail

Use MLA citations and Works Cited details to support an inference.

9.T.RA.2.c “Follow Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines when responding to inferential questions about texts or when integrating and citing textual evidence, ensuring each source is accompanied by a basic entry on a works cited page. (C)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details Lena could use as evidence, circle each parenthetical citation, and number source facts she saved for a Works Cited entry.

A Proposal for Shade

- ① At a student council meeting, Lena proposed adding shade trees along the walk from the bus loop to the library. She had noticed that students crowded under the narrow awning during warm dismissal days. Before speaking, Lena read “Shade Plan for Riverside Schools,” a report published by the Greenfield Parks Department on its website, *Greenfield Parks Online*, on 14 March 2025. The report maps the bus loop as an area with little tree cover and recommends planting native trees where sidewalks are widest. Lena also read Maya Ortiz’s 3 April 2025 article, “Students Map the Hottest Walkways,” in *The Greenfield Gazette*. Ortiz describes students recording surface temperatures near campus.
- ② During her speech, Lena used an inference rather than treating one detail as a complete answer. In one sentence, she referred to the report’s map and placed (Greenfield Parks Department) after her idea. In another sentence, she connected the map with Ortiz’s temperature observations and used (Greenfield Parks Department; Ortiz). Her parenthetical citations point readers to sources without interrupting her sentences. Lena did not add a page number because she used online materials with no page numbers. In her notes, she kept each source’s author or organization, title, publication date, container, and web address.
- ③ After drafting her speech, Lena planned a separate Works Cited page. She would make one entry for the parks report and one for the newspaper article, even though she had cited each source in her speech. The entries would be alphabetized by the first item in each entry, so the organization’s name and the writer’s last name matter. She would use a hanging indent, with later lines of an entry moved inward. In MLA style, article and report titles use quotation marks. Website and newspaper titles, called containers, are italicized. A Works Cited page gives publication information in a consistent form.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** What can you infer about how Lena prepared for her proposal? Write one sentence and support it with an MLA parenthetical citation using both sources.

- 2** Use a signal phrase and a parenthetical citation to integrate the report's recommendation about where trees could be planted. Write one sentence.

- 3** Using the report details in the passage and this web address, write a basic MLA Works Cited entry: <https://www.greenfieldparks.example/riverside-shade>

- 4** Which source would come first on Lena's Works Cited page, and what rule determines its placement?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly two sentences answering this inferential question: What does Lena's research process suggest about the kind of proposal she wants to make? Include one MLA parenthetical citation using both sources. Then write basic MLA Works Cited entries for both sources, using these web addresses: <https://www.greenfieldparks.example/riverside-shade> and <https://www.greenfieldgazette.example/hot-walkways>.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details Lena could use as evidence, circle each parenthetical citation, and number source facts she saved for a Works Cited entry. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What can you infer about how Lena prepared for her proposal? Write one sentence and support it with an MLA parenthetical citation using both sources.	Sample: Lena likely wanted her proposal to rest on more than one kind of evidence, not only her own observation (Greenfield Parks Department; Ortiz).
2	Use a signal phrase and a parenthetical citation to integrate the report's recommendation about where trees could be planted. Write one sentence.	The report "Shade Plan for Riverside Schools" recommends planting native trees where sidewalks are widest (Greenfield Parks Department).
3	Using the report details in the passage and this web address, write a basic MLA Works Cited entry: https://www.greenfieldparks.example/riverside-shade	Greenfield Parks Department. "Shade Plan for Riverside Schools." <i>Greenfield Parks Online</i>, 14 Mar. 2025, https://www.greenfieldparks.example/riverside-shade.
4	Which source would come first on Lena's Works Cited page, and what rule determines its placement?	The Greenfield Parks Department source comes first because entries are alphabetized by the first item, and Greenfield comes before Ortiz.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Lena's research process suggests that she wants to make a practical proposal supported by more than one kind of evidence. She compares information about tree cover with students' temperature records instead of relying only on what she noticed (Greenfield Parks Department; Ortiz). Greenfield Parks Department. "Shade Plan for Riverside Schools." <i>Greenfield Parks Online</i>, 14 Mar. 2025, <https://www.greenfieldparks.example/riverside-shade>. Ortiz, Maya. "Students Map the Hottest Walkways." <i>The Greenfield Gazette</i>, 3 Apr. 2025, <https://www.greenfieldgazette.example/hot-walkways>.

Accept reasonable inferences that connect Lena's use of the map and temperature observations. Accept MLA entries with the correct author or organization, title, italicized container, date, URL, and alphabetical order, even if minor punctuation differs.