

Evidence at Manzanar

Trace how credible sources and reasoning support a historical claim.

L6-8WHST1.b "Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the author's claim, circle each piece of evidence or data, and number each named source to show how credible evidence supports the claim.

Why Preserve Manzanar?

- ① Manzanar, in California's Owens Valley, should remain carefully preserved as a national historic site. From 1942 to 1945, the federal government imprisoned Japanese Americans there during World War II. The National Park Service explains that more than 11,000 people were confined at Manzanar. This number matters because it shows that the site was not a small or isolated event. Preserving the buildings, gardens, and records helps visitors study how government decisions affected thousands of families.
- ② Other credible sources add details to this claim. The National Archives holds photographs by Dorothea Lange, who documented families being removed from their homes in 1942. The photographs are primary sources, meaning they were created at the time. In addition, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians reported in 1982 that the incarceration was not justified by military necessity. Because these sources come from a federal archive and a congressionally created commission, they give readers reliable evidence rather than unsupported opinion.
- ③ Some people may say that maintaining an old site costs money that could be used elsewhere. However, preservation does more than save old structures. At Manzanar, visitors can examine a place where a constitutional rights crisis occurred, compare photographs with official records, and ask how prejudice shaped public policy. The site's evidence makes the past concrete. Therefore, funding preservation is a reasonable choice because it gives the public trustworthy materials for learning about a major failure of democracy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What claim does the author make about Manzanar?

2 What numerical evidence does the author use? Explain how it supports the claim.

3 Name two sources from paragraph 2. What makes each source credible according to the passage?

4 How does paragraph 3 answer the idea that preservation costs too much money?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a historic site you have studied. Write 5 to 6 sentences that make a claim about preserving or studying it, include two accurate pieces of evidence, name a credible source for each piece, and explain how the evidence supports your claim.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the author's claim, circle each piece of evidence or data, and number each named source to show how credible evidence supports the claim. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What claim does the author make about Manzanar?	Manzanar should remain carefully preserved as a national historic site.
2	What numerical evidence does the author use? Explain how it supports the claim.	The National Park Service says that more than 11,000 people were confined at Manzanar. This shows that many families were affected, so the site represents a major event worth preserving.
3	Name two sources from paragraph 2. What makes each source credible according to the passage?	The National Archives is credible because it is a federal archive. The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians is credible because it was created by Congress.
4	How does paragraph 3 answer the idea that preservation costs too much money?	It says preservation provides more than old buildings. The site gives people trustworthy materials to study a constitutional rights crisis, prejudice, and public policy.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Sites connected to the Montgomery Bus Boycott should be preserved. The National Park Service states that the boycott began on December 5, 1955, and lasted 381 days. This evidence shows that the protest was a long, organized effort that changed daily life in Montgomery. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute reports that Black residents used carpools and walked during the boycott. These sources show why the sites help people study how ordinary citizens challenged segregation.

Accept equivalent claims when students identify preservation as the author's position and connect evidence to that position. For the open response, accept accurate evidence from credible sources and clear reasoning that links both details to the student's claim.