Reasons That Fit

Notice how related details build an argument.

6.W.1.b "Use an organizational structure to group related ideas that support the argument."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence in each paragraph that states its main supporting idea. Circle two details in each paragraph that belong with that idea.

A Place to Play at Lunch

1. Our school should set up a board game corner during lunch once a week. First, games can help students connect with classmates they do not know well. At a table, players take turns, talk about moves, and laugh at surprises. A student who feels awkward joining a loud group might find it easier to ask, "Can I play?" at a game table. Because most games need more than one player, the corner gives students a simple reason to include someone new.

2. A game corner can also give students a chance to practice useful thinking skills. In a strategy game, players compare choices before they make a move. In a word game, they search for patterns and try new ideas. Players often have to explain a rule or listen when someone sees a different solution. These skills do not replace classwork, but they make lunch more than a break from learning. Students can think hard while still enjoying time with friends.

3. The corner would be manageable if the school starts small. A teacher could lend a few sturdy games, or families could donate complete sets they no longer use. Students could sign out a game and return its pieces to a labeled bag before lunch ends. A short list of table rules, such as taking turns and putting pieces away, would keep the area orderly. With a simple plan for supplies and cleanup, a weekly game corner is a realistic way to improve lunch.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What change does the writer want? Name the three groups of supporting ideas in order.

2. Which two details in the first paragraph support the idea that games help classmates connect?

3. How do the strategy game and word game details work together to support the second paragraph's main idea?

4. Why do the ideas about donated games and labeled bags belong in the third paragraph instead of the second?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a different change you want your school to make. Write one paragraph of 5 or 6 sentences that states your claim and groups two related reasons with a detail next to each reason.

ANSWER KEY

Reasons That Fit

GRADE 6 · 6.W.1.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence in each paragraph that states its main supporting idea. Circle two details in each paragraph that belong with that idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What change does the writer want? Name the three groups of supporting ideas in order.	**The writer wants a weekly lunch board game corner. The supporting ideas are connecting with classmates, practicing thinking skills, and managing the corner with a simple plan.**
2	Which two details in the first paragraph support the idea that games help classmates connect?	**Players talk and take turns together. A game table may make it easier for a student to ask to join.**
3	How do the strategy game and word game details work together to support the second paragraph's main idea?	**Both show ways games let students practice thinking: comparing choices and looking for patterns.**
4	Why do the ideas about donated games and labeled bags belong in the third paragraph instead of the second?	**Both are part of a practical plan for supplies and cleanup, not examples of thinking skills.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water bottle filling station near the gym. It would make water easier to get after exercise. Students leaving gym class could refill their bottles without walking to another hallway. It could also reduce the number of disposable plastic bottles used at school. Students who bring reusable bottles could fill them instead of buying single-use bottles. For these reasons, a filling station would be a useful addition.

For the marking job, accept details that clearly support each paragraph's main idea. For Part 3, look for a distinct school change, two reasons, and a relevant detail placed next to each reason.