Shade the Seats

Use others' words and ideas to weigh a schoolyard plan.

6.W.5.d "Quote or paraphrase the information and conclusions of others."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one quoted observation and circle one quoted conclusion. Write each speaker's name beside the words you marked so you can track whose ideas they are.

A Cooler Place to Sit

1 At lunch, our class investigated where students might find a cooler seat outside. We walked from the blacktop to a maple tree and compared two benches. Sam, a student observer, reported, "The bench beside the blacktop felt hotter than the bench under the maple." Sam did not measure their temperatures, so the observation describes how the benches felt, not how hot they were. Sam concluded, "If we want a cooler place to sit, we should add shade near the courts." That idea became one possible plan.

2 Water also matters when choosing a place for plants. Mr. Ortiz, the school custodian, told us, "Rain runs off the blacktop and collects beside the gate." He explained that the garden soil remains softer after storms because some rain can soak into it. Mr. Ortiz concluded, "A narrow planting bed near the gate could catch some of that runoff." In our notes, we restated his point: soil near the gate might absorb some water that would otherwise pool there. We did not claim the bed would stop every puddle.

3 Before we suggested planting a tree, we asked Ms. Patel, a garden volunteer, about the space beside the courts. She said, "Maple roots need space under the soil, not just a small hole for the trunk." Ms. Patel also concluded, "A new tree might help later, but a shade sail would shade the seats sooner." We recorded her conclusion in our own words: a sail would offer shade sooner than a growing tree. These sources do not give us a final design, but they help us compare options for seating, water, and plants.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Quote Sam's observation about the two benches. Name Sam as your source.

2. In your own words, what did Mr. Ortiz say happens to rain on the blacktop?

3. Quote Mr. Ortiz's conclusion about a way to handle some of the runoff.

4. Paraphrase what Ms. Patel said maple roots need.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences recommending a first step to make the outdoor seats cooler. Quote Sam's conclusion, paraphrase Ms. Patel's conclusion, and explain how both sources support your choice.

ANSWER KEY

Shade the Seats

GRADE 6 · 6.W.5.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one quoted observation and circle one quoted conclusion. Write each speaker's name beside the words you marked so you can track whose ideas they are. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Quote Sam's observation about the two benches. Name Sam as your source.	**Sam reported, "The bench beside the blacktop felt hotter than the bench under the maple."**
2	In your own words, what did Mr. Ortiz say happens to rain on the blacktop?	**Mr. Ortiz said rain flows off the blacktop and gathers near the gate.**
3	Quote Mr. Ortiz's conclusion about a way to handle some of the runoff.	**Mr. Ortiz concluded, "A narrow planting bed near the gate could catch some of that runoff."**
4	Paraphrase what Ms. Patel said maple roots need.	**Ms. Patel said maple roots need room to spread below ground, not only enough space for the trunk.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Sam concluded, "If we want a cooler place to sit, we should add shade near the courts." Ms. Patel thinks a shade sail would shade the seats sooner than a new tree. I recommend putting up a shade sail first because it could meet Sam's goal without waiting for a tree to grow.

Accept accurate paraphrases in the student's own words that name the source. For quotations, check that the quoted words match the passage exactly.