Facts, Three Ways

Choose a format that fits your audience and purpose.

8.W.5.f "Present information, choosing from a variety of formats."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the name of each format. In each paragraph, circle one feature that helps that format serve its audience.

One Schoolyard, Three Formats

1. School newsletter article: On a sunny afternoon, two students walk across the same schoolyard. One crosses bare pavement, while the other follows a row of trees. Shade can make a place feel cooler because it blocks direct sunlight from reaching people and the ground. Trees can also cool nearby air as water evaporates from their leaves. A newsletter paragraph can connect these ideas in full sentences for readers who want an explanation, not just a quick tip. It should not claim that every shaded spot has the same temperature.

2. Audio stop for a walking tour: "Pause beside the courtyard tree. Notice where sunlight reaches the pavement and where the trunk casts shade. If you were choosing a place to wait outside, which spot might you try first? Shade blocks direct sunlight, and trees release water vapor that can cool nearby air. You cannot measure the temperature just by looking, so a thermometer would help test the difference." A spoken script uses a question and a direction to turn information into something listeners can explore on the spot.

3. Poster text for a school meeting: "Need a cooler place to wait? Look for shade. Trees block direct sunlight and can cool nearby air as water leaves their leaves. For an exact comparison, measure both places." The short sentences suit readers passing a display, but they leave out details found in the newsletter. Each format keeps the science accurate while changing the amount of detail and the way readers meet it. When a writer chooses a format, the audience and purpose matter as much as the facts.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which format would best reach someone passing quickly through the school meeting? What feature makes it a good choice?

2. Which format is designed for someone standing beside the courtyard tree? Name one feature that fits that setting.

3. A reader wants an explanation of both shade and evaporation without visiting the courtyard. Which format should the reader choose, and why?

4. How do the audio stop and the poster present the fact that shade blocks direct sunlight in different ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a topic you know well and two accurate facts about it. Present both facts in an FAQ with two question-and-answer pairs and in a three-sentence announcement, then name a different audience for each format.

ANSWER KEY

Facts, Three Ways

GRADE 8 · 8.W.5.f

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the name of each format. In each paragraph, circle one feature that helps that format serve its audience. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which format would best reach someone passing quickly through the school meeting? What feature makes it a good choice?	**The poster uses short sentences that a passing reader can take in quickly.**
2	Which format is designed for someone standing beside the courtyard tree? Name one feature that fits that setting.	**The audio stop directs listeners to pause and notice the sunlight and shade beside the tree.**
3	A reader wants an explanation of both shade and evaporation without visiting the courtyard. Which format should the reader choose, and why?	**The newsletter article explains that shade blocks direct sunlight and that water evaporating from leaves can cool nearby air.**
4	How do the audio stop and the poster present the fact that shade blocks direct sunlight in different ways?	**The audio stop asks listeners to notice sunlight and shade where they stand. The poster gives passing readers a quick suggestion to look for shade.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

FAQ for students learning healthy habits:
Q: When should I wash my hands? A: Wash them before eating.
Q: How should I wash them? A: Use soap and water, and scrub for at least 20 seconds.
Announcement for students heading to lunch: Before you eat, wash your hands. Use soap and water, and scrub for at least 20 seconds. Make time to do this before you pick up your food.

Accept any two accurate facts that appear in both formats. The FAQ should answer two questions, and the three-sentence announcement should suit its named audience.