A Shelf to Share

Read how an opinion writer builds a case.

C.5.1 "Compose opinion pieces, using writing and digital resources, on topics or texts, supporting the writer's perspective with reasons and information..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's opinion, number the two reasons that support it, and circle the words that introduce each reason. These marks will help you see how the writer organizes the argument.

A Puzzle Shelf for Our Library

1. At lunch, some students want a quiet break, but the library has only books to borrow. Our school should add a puzzle swap shelf in the library. Students could bring a complete puzzle, borrow another one, and return it after finishing. A labeled box for each puzzle would help keep its pieces together. This small shelf would give students a new way to spend indoor lunch.

2. First, a puzzle shelf would make quiet time more welcoming for students who like to work with others. Two or three classmates can search for pieces and decide where they fit. Each person can take part, even if someone else reads faster. For example, one student might sort edge pieces while another groups pieces by color. This shared task gives students something specific to talk about.

3. Also, a swap shelf could offer choices without buying a new puzzle for every student. One puzzle can be used again after its pieces are put back in its box. A sign-out sheet would show which puzzle a student borrowed, and a return checklist could remind students to put loose pieces in the box. For these reasons, a well-organized puzzle swap shelf belongs in our library.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's opinion, and where does the writer state it?

2. What is the first reason for adding the shelf? Give one detail the writer uses to support it.

3. What is the second reason for adding the shelf? Name one detail that supports it.

4. How do "First" and "Also" help organize the reasons? What does the last sentence do?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one paragraph arguing for an indoor lunch activity other than puzzles. State your opinion, give two reasons with specific details, use words that show the order of your reasons, and end with a concluding sentence.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's opinion, number the two reasons that support it, and circle the words that introduce each reason. These marks will help you see how the writer organizes the argument. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's opinion, and where does the writer state it?	**The writer thinks the school should add a puzzle swap shelf. The opinion appears in the first paragraph.**
2	What is the first reason for adding the shelf? Give one detail the writer uses to support it.	**The shelf would help students work together during quiet time. One student could sort edge pieces while another groups pieces by color.**
3	What is the second reason for adding the shelf? Name one detail that supports it.	**The shelf could offer choices without buying a new puzzle for every student. A puzzle can be used again after its pieces are returned to its box.**
4	How do "First" and "Also" help organize the reasons? What does the last sentence do?	**"First" introduces the reason about working together, and "Also" introduces the reason about reusing puzzles. The last sentence restates the opinion as a conclusion.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should offer a paper-folding table during indoor lunch. First, folding paper gives students a quiet activity that fits on a small table. A single sheet can become a paper boat, so students do not need many supplies. Also, students can learn from one another by showing each fold in order. A student who knows how to make a boat could teach a classmate and then try a new shape. For these reasons, a paper-folding table would be a useful choice for indoor lunch.

Accept other accurate details from the passage that support the stated reasons. For the open task, look for a clear opinion, two distinct reasons supported by details, transitions, and a conclusion.