Shade the Claim

Search, check, and cite sources about city heat.

C.7.6 "Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and, in order to engage in reflection or analysis..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the two search phrases and circle each in-text citation. Number the matching Works Cited entries 1 and 2 so a reader can trace each borrowed idea to its source.

A Hot Spot Outside the Library

(1) On a hot afternoon, the blacktop outside my library felt warmer than the shaded grass. I wanted to know whether this difference was just my imagination, so I searched a print encyclopedia for "city temperature" and two websites for "urban heat island pavement trees." The print entry described city climates but gave no clear comparison of pavement and plants. The digital results led me to NASA Climate Kids and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). I kept those sources because their organizations are named and their pages address my question directly.

(2) Before using either page, I checked what each actually supported. NASA Climate Kids explains that roads and buildings absorb sunlight and release heat later (NASA). The EPA says trees and other plants cool their surroundings through shade and the release of water vapor (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). These statements agree that pavement and plants affect local heat, but neither page proves exactly how warm my library's blacktop was that day. I paraphrased the sites instead of copying their wording, and I placed a citation after each borrowed idea.

(3) My conclusion was modest: adding shade near the library might help people waiting outside, but a thermometer study would be needed to measure the effect. A source can be trustworthy without answering every question. For readers who want to check my paraphrases, I recorded both page titles and web addresses in my Works Cited list. **Works Cited.** NASA. "What Is an Urban Heat Island?" *NASA Climate Kids*, climatekids.nasa.gov/heat-islands/. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Learn About Heat Islands." *EPA*, www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which search phrase is more useful for finding information about both pavement and plants? Explain why.

2. Why did the writer choose the two websites instead of relying on the print encyclopedia entry?

3. Which source supports the claim that plants cool their surroundings? Give its in-text citation and the title of its Works Cited entry.

4. Why would the claim “NASA measured the temperature of this library’s blacktop” misuse the source?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A city council is considering shade for a school bus stop. Write three sentences that use one paraphrased fact from each digital source to analyze the idea, explain what the sources cannot prove about that stop, and suggest a way to check the local effect. Add an MLA in-text citation after each borrowed fact, then include both matching Works Cited entries.

ANSWER KEY

Shade the Claim

GRADE 7 · C.7.6

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the two search phrases and circle each in-text citation. Number the matching Works Cited entries 1 and 2 so a reader can trace each borrowed idea to its source. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which search phrase is more useful for finding information about both pavement and plants? Explain why.	**"Urban heat island pavement trees" is more useful because it names the heat topic and both surfaces the writer wants to compare.**
2	Why did the writer choose the two websites instead of relying on the print encyclopedia entry?	**The websites name their organizations and directly address the question. The print entry gave no clear comparison of pavement and plants.**
3	Which source supports the claim that plants cool their surroundings? Give its in-text citation and the title of its Works Cited entry.	**The EPA supports the claim. Its citation is (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), and its entry is titled "Learn About Heat Islands."**
4	Why would the claim "NASA measured the temperature of this library's blacktop" misuse the source?	**The NASA page explains how roads and buildings absorb and release heat. It does not report a measurement at the writer's library.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Roads and buildings can absorb sunlight and release heat later, so the pavement near the bus stop may stay warm (NASA). Trees can cool nearby areas with shade and released water vapor, which supports considering them for the stop (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). Neither source measures this bus stop, so I would compare thermometer readings there with and without shade.

NASA. "What Is an Urban Heat Island?" *NASA Climate Kids*, climatekids.nasa.gov/heat-islands/.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Learn About Heat Islands." *EPA*, www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands.

Accept accurate paraphrases and reasonable local checks, such as comparing temperatures at similar times. Each borrowed fact should have a citation that matches a Works Cited entry.