Refill or Rethink?

Test a school proposal against its evidence

RI.7.8 "Identify and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's main recommendation, circle two pieces of evidence, and write 1 beside a claim that needs more evidence.

A Refill Station at the Field?

1 At Cedar Ridge School, the soccer booster club bought 120 plastic water bottles for each of two home games last September. After both games, volunteers counted 240 empty bottles in the recycling bins. Those bottles made me think our school should try a refill station beside the main field for the next month of games. A short test could reduce the number of single-use bottles the club buys. It would also show whether fans will actually use free water when they can refill a bottle they brought from home.

2 At the second game, club members asked 80 fans whether they would bring a reusable bottle if a refill station offered cold water. Sixty-four said yes. That result makes the test worth trying, but a promise made at one game is not the same as a habit across a season. The volunteers could record how many refills people take and count bottles in the bins during the test. Comparing those counts with the two earlier games would give us better evidence about whether the station reduces bottle waste.

3 Some club members also say a station will save money because the club now spends $120 on bottled water at each game. That spending matters, but it does not prove a station will be cheaper. No one has reported what a station costs to rent, install, or maintain, or how many bottles the club would still need. For now, the waste counts and fan survey support a limited trial, not a promise of savings. A trial would let the club judge both costs and waste before making a permanent decision.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the writer recommend, and which detail about bottle waste supports that recommendation?

2. How is the fan survey relevant to the proposal, and why is it not enough to predict what fans will do all season?

3. Does the club's current spending prove that a station will save money? Explain using information from the passage.

4. Why does the writer argue for a trial instead of a permanent station now?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A student claims the school should install refill stations at every athletic field immediately. In three sentences, use one passage detail to evaluate that claim, explain whether the evidence is sufficient, and name information you would need before agreeing.

Refill or Rethink?

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's main recommendation, circle two pieces of evidence, and write 1 beside a claim that needs more evidence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the writer recommend, and which detail about bottle waste supports that recommendation?	**The writer recommends trying a refill station beside the main field for a month. Volunteers counted 240 empty bottles after two home games.**
2	How is the fan survey relevant to the proposal, and why is it not enough to predict what fans will do all season?	**Sixty-four of 80 fans said they would bring a reusable bottle if cold refill water were available, suggesting some might use the station. The survey covered one game, and stated plans do not prove future behavior.**
3	Does the club's current spending prove that a station will save money? Explain using information from the passage.	**No. The club spends $120 per game on bottled water, but the station's costs and the number of bottles the club would still need are unknown.**
4	Why does the writer argue for a trial instead of a permanent station now?	**A trial would provide evidence about actual refills, bottle waste, and costs before the school makes a permanent decision.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The 240 empty bottles counted after two soccer games show that bottle waste is worth investigating. That evidence is not sufficient to justify stations at every field because it comes from games at only one field. I would need to know how much bottled water is used at the other fields and what each station would cost.

Accept answers that distinguish evidence for a limited trial from evidence for a permanent or schoolwide decision. Students may identify other relevant missing information, such as attendance at other fields or how often fans would use a station.