

Sidewalks and Supper

Trace a narrator's changing view of community.

6R6 "Identify the point of view and explain how it is developed and conveys meaning. (RI&RL) Explain how an author's geographic location or culture affects his or her perspective. (RI&RL)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline details that show what the narrator values, and circle details that reveal how living in each place shapes that view.

A Different Measure

- ① When my family moved from our small farming town to Wichita, I measured a good neighborhood by its sidewalks, bus stops, and stores open after dark. Back home, the nearest grocery store was a fifteen-minute drive, and winter wind often covered the roads with snow. I thought our town needed more of the city's speed and convenience. From my apartment window, I admired how quickly people could reach a library, clinic, or soccer field without asking anyone for a ride.
- ② During a summer visit, I attended a town meeting about repairing the old bridge. At first, the neighbors' long talks felt slow to me. Then I heard a rancher explain that school buses, grain trucks, and ambulance crews all depended on that crossing. People disagreed about the cost, but they listened until each person had spoken. I began to see that the meeting was not wasted time. In a place where one bridge connects scattered homes, planning together protects everyone.
- ③ My new view came partly from the farming culture I knew. At community suppers, adults traded weather reports, seed advice, and news about families who needed help. As a child, I saw these conversations as ordinary. After living in the city, I understood them as a network of care. I still value sidewalks and nearby stores, but I no longer judge my hometown by city standards alone. Its distance between homes makes shared decisions and neighborly knowledge especially meaningful.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the narrator’s point of view about a good neighborhood at the beginning of the passage? Give one detail that shows it.

2 How does the narrator’s view in paragraph 1 differ from the view by the end of paragraph 2?

3 How does the hometown’s geographic location affect the narrator’s perspective about the bridge meeting? Use evidence from the passage.

4 How does the farming culture affect the narrator’s perspective, and what meaning does this help convey?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

YOUR TURN: Write exactly three sentences about a geographic feature or cultural tradition you know. Explain how it shapes your perspective about a place or community.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

As you read, underline details that show what the narrator values, and circle details that reveal how living in each place shapes that view. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the narrator's point of view about a good neighborhood at the beginning of the passage? Give one detail that shows it.	At first, the narrator values city convenience, such as sidewalks, bus stops, nearby stores, and quick access to places. The narrator says a good neighborhood had these features.
2	How does the narrator's view in paragraph 1 differ from the view by the end of paragraph 2?	In paragraph 1, the narrator wishes the hometown had more city speed and convenience. By the end of paragraph 2, the narrator understands that careful community planning protects people in a rural place with scattered homes.
3	How does the hometown's geographic location affect the narrator's perspective about the bridge meeting? Use evidence from the passage.	Because scattered homes are connected by one bridge, the narrator realizes the bridge is important for school buses, grain trucks, and ambulances. This makes the meeting seem necessary instead of slow and wasted.
4	How does the farming culture affect the narrator's perspective, and what meaning does this help convey?	The farming culture teaches the narrator that sharing advice and helping families creates a network of care. It conveys that a community's way of life can make shared decisions and neighborly knowledge valuable.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My family makes tamales together before winter holidays, and each person has a job. This tradition teaches me that a neighborhood is strongest when people share work and stories. Because of it, I see our community center as a place where neighbors can care for one another.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the narrator's shift from valuing city convenience to valuing rural cooperation and planning when supported by passage details. The Your Turn response should include exactly three sentences and clearly connect a location or tradition to the student's perspective.