

# Shade With Purpose

Read a model conclusion that explains why evidence matters.

**8W2.e** "Provide a concluding statement or section that explains the significance of the information presented."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline the sentences in the last paragraph that explain why the information matters, and circle the phrase that directly states the plan's significance.

### Planning for Cooler Streets

- ① On hot summer days, neighborhoods with few trees can feel much warmer than nearby parks. This difference occurs because pavement and dark roofs absorb sunlight, then release heat slowly. Trees cool an area in two ways: their leaves cast shade, and water evaporating from leaves carries heat away. For this reason, many cities are measuring their tree canopy, the portion of land covered by leaves and branches, before deciding where to plant most new trees.
- ② In Richmond, Virginia, the city worked with residents to identify blocks that lacked shade. Staff members compared temperature readings, tree locations, and residents' reports about walking to bus stops. The project did not treat every neighborhood the same. Instead, planners used the information to select planting sites near sidewalks, schools, and bus stops. Young trees need years to grow large, so the city also planned for watering and maintenance. Planting alone would not guarantee cooler, usable outdoor spaces.
- ③ Urban tree planting matters because it connects scientific information to daily life. Temperature data and canopy measurements can reveal which streets need shade most, while residents can explain where heat makes travel difficult. When cities combine both kinds of evidence, they can spend limited funds more fairly and protect people during hotter weather. The value of a tree plan, then, is not simply the number of trees planted. Its significance lies in creating cooler, safer places that more people can use.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** Which paragraph is the conclusion? What is the main job of that paragraph?

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**2** What two kinds of evidence does the conclusion say cities should combine?

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**3** How does the conclusion show that a successful tree plan is about more than the number of trees planted?

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**4** According to the conclusion, why can combining both kinds of evidence lead to fairer decisions?

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Imagine your report explained that a school moved recess 20 minutes earlier during a heat wave, provided water stations, and recorded fewer nurse visits for heat-related symptoms. Write a two-sentence concluding section that explains why these results matter for future school decisions.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline the sentences in the last paragraph that explain why the information matters, and circle the phrase that directly states the plan's significance. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                 | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Which paragraph is the conclusion? What is the main job of that paragraph?                               | <b>Paragraph 3. It explains why using tree and resident information matters when cities plan where to plant trees.</b>                                                              |
| 2 | What two kinds of evidence does the conclusion say cities should combine?                                | <b>Cities should combine scientific evidence, such as temperature data and canopy measurements, with residents' explanations of where heat makes travel difficult.</b>              |
| 3 | How does the conclusion show that a successful tree plan is about more than the number of trees planted? | <b>It says the plan's significance is creating cooler, safer places that more people can use.</b>                                                                                   |
| 4 | According to the conclusion, why can combining both kinds of evidence lead to fairer decisions?          | <b>The evidence can show which streets need shade most and where heat affects travel. Cities can then spend limited funds more fairly and protect people during hotter weather.</b> |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

These results show that small schedule and safety changes can protect students when temperatures rise. Using this evidence, schools can plan outdoor time that keeps learning and play safer during future heat waves.

Accept responses that identify the final paragraph as the conclusion and explain its focus on the importance of evidence-based, fair tree planning. For Your Turn, accept two sentences that move beyond repeating the results and explain their significance for future school choices.