# Trace the Findings

Quote, paraphrase, and summarize with MLA citations

**8.6.W.3** "Students will quote, paraphrase, and summarize findings following a consistent citation style (e.g., MLA, APA) to avoid plagiarism."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline the model's exact quote, circle each parenthetical citation, and number the model sentences that quote, paraphrase, and summarize as 1, 2, and 3.

### Which Bench Would You Choose?

1. At lunch, students in Ms. Ortiz's class surveyed which of three courtyard benches classmates would choose. Their tally sheet, written by Lila Patel, reports 18 votes for the shaded oak bench, 10 for the sunny bench, and 6 for the fountain bench. On page 2, Patel writes, "Eighteen students chose the bench under the oak." A writer can use those exact words with quotation marks and a page citation: "Eighteen students chose the bench under the oak" (Patel 2). The citation points readers to the original tally sheet.

2. After the vote, Jonah Reed asked classmates what mattered in their bench choices. His interview notes on page 4 say that 12 students named shade and 9 named a place near the basketball court. Rather than repeat Reed's wording, a writer can paraphrase his finding: More students mentioned shade than a nearby basketball court when explaining their choices (Reed 4). A summary can combine findings from both sources: At lunch, shade appeared in the bench votes and in students' reasons for choosing (Patel 2; Reed 4).

3. Patel also recorded a separate morning vote for the same benches on page 3 of her tally sheet. Her notes say, "By 8 a.m., the sunlit bench had 14 votes, while the shaded bench had 8 votes." The morning count is not part of Reed's interviews, and it is not the lunch count on page 2. When a writer uses a number, a phrase, or a broader conclusion from these notes, the source still needs a citation. Here, citations use the MLA pattern: author's last name and page number in parentheses.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the model's quoted finding from Patel, including its MLA citation.

2. Write a new, one-sentence paraphrase comparing the two reasons in Reed's interview notes. Include an MLA citation.

3. In one sentence, summarize what the lunch votes and Reed's interviews suggest about shade. Cite both sources.

4. A student copies the model's paraphrase but leaves off "(Reed 4)." What must the student add, and where?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences comparing the morning and lunch votes. Use one short exact quote from Patel's morning notes, paraphrase a different morning detail, and summarize how the choices differed across the two votes. Cite each sentence in MLA style.

ANSWER KEY

# Trace the Findings

GRADE 8 · 8.6.W.3

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the model's exact quote, circle each parenthetical citation, and number the model sentences that quote, paraphrase, and summarize as 1, 2, and 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Copy the model's quoted finding from Patel, including its MLA citation. | **"Eighteen students chose the bench under the oak" (Patel 2).** |
| 2 | Write a new, one-sentence paraphrase comparing the two reasons in Reed's interview notes. Include an MLA citation. | **Three more students mentioned shade than a place near the basketball court (Reed 4).** |
| 3 | In one sentence, summarize what the lunch votes and Reed's interviews suggest about shade. Cite both sources. | **Shade figured in the most popular lunch bench choice and was named more often than the court in interviews (Patel 2; Reed 4).** |
| 4 | A student copies the model's paraphrase but leaves off "(Reed 4)." What must the student add, and where? | **Add (Reed 4) after "choices" and before the sentence's period.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Patel reports that "the sunlit bench had 14 votes" in the morning (Patel 3). Eight morning votes went to the shaded bench (Patel 3). The sunlit bench received more votes than the shaded bench in the morning, but the shaded oak bench received more votes than the sunny bench at lunch (Patel 2-3).

Accept accurate paraphrases and summaries that cite the appropriate page or pages. For the open task, check that the quote matches Patel's morning notes exactly and that the three sentences each have a citation.