Check the Record

Compare firsthand records with a news report

9.6.R.2 "Students will synthesize relevant information from a variety of primary and secondary sources, following ethical and legal citation guidelines."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number each named source 1 if it records firsthand evidence or 2 if it reports on other sources. Underline a detail that appears in two sources, then circle a detail in the article that you need to check against the minutes.

A Trial at Harbor High

1 At fictional Harbor High, students argued about when the library should close. A student council survey, "Library Hours Survey" (October 3, 2026), asked students to respond through a link shared at lunch. Of the 64 students who chose to answer, 42 wanted the library open later, while 22 preferred the current hours. The survey shows what those respondents wanted, not what all Harbor High students want. Because the link was shared at lunch, students who missed lunch or did not see the link may have been left out. The survey did not ask how students would travel home.

2 The school council's "October 10 Meeting Minutes" (2026) record a vote to test later library hours for two weeks. During that trial, the library would close at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays instead of its usual 4 p.m. The minutes say the council would review attendance and staffing before deciding whether to continue. They do not promise a permanent schedule change. The minutes record the vote but cannot show whether students actually used the extra hour. The council also asked library staff to count visitors during the trial. Those counts would provide a different kind of evidence later, but the minutes include no visitor totals.

3 Maya Chen's article "Library Hours Get a Trial," published in the Harbor High Ledger on October 12, 2026, summarizes the survey and the council's vote. Chen writes that 42 survey respondents favored later hours. She also reports that the library "will stay open until 5 p.m. every weekday" during the trial. Chen did not collect the survey responses or cast the council's vote; she wrote about records made by others. The article reaches readers who may never see those records, but its schedule claim deserves a second look. When you use another writer's reporting, credit the writer and check important details against available records.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two sources record firsthand evidence, and which source reports on them? Explain how you know.

2. What number appears in both the survey and Chen's article? What does checking the survey help you say accurately about that number?

3. Could you use the meeting minutes to claim that students used the extra library hour? Explain what evidence is missing.

4. Write two sentences connecting students' interest with the council's response. Paraphrase and cite both the survey and the minutes by title and date, without making a claim about all students.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 3- to 4-sentence note for a future reporter. Propose two new firsthand records that would help judge how the trial went, explain what each would show, and cite two sources from the passage by title or author and date to show why those records are needed.

ANSWER KEY

Check the Record

GRADE 9 · 9.6.R.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number each named source 1 if it records firsthand evidence or 2 if it reports on other sources. Underline a detail that appears in two sources, then circle a detail in the article that you need to check against the minutes. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two sources record firsthand evidence, and which source reports on them? Explain how you know.	**The survey records students' responses, and the minutes record the council's decision. Chen's article reports on those earlier records.**
2	What number appears in both the survey and Chen's article? What does checking the survey help you say accurately about that number?	**Both give 42. The number describes students who chose to answer the survey, not all Harbor High students.**
3	Could you use the meeting minutes to claim that students used the extra library hour? Explain what evidence is missing.	**No. The minutes approve a trial but provide no visitor counts showing whether students used the extra hour.**
4	Write two sentences connecting students' interest with the council's response. Paraphrase and cite both the survey and the minutes by title and date, without making a claim about all students.	**In "Library Hours Survey" (October 3, 2026), 42 of 64 respondents favored later hours. The council approved a two-week trial with later closing on Tuesdays and Thursdays, according to "October 10 Meeting Minutes" (2026).**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

"Library Hours Survey" (October 3, 2026) shows interest among respondents, but it does not show whether anyone stayed later. Daily visitor counts would show how many students used the added hour. "October 10 Meeting Minutes" (2026) say staffing will be reviewed, so staff schedules and work-hour records would show what coverage the trial required. Together, those new records would provide evidence about use and staffing that the survey and minutes do not yet provide.

Accept equivalent source classifications and paraphrases that preserve the survey's limited scope and the minutes' trial schedule. For Your Turn, accept other relevant firsthand records if the student explains what each would reveal and cites two passage sources accurately.