Questions Before a Vote

Ask and answer questions that help examine a community choice.

5.P.1.2.C "Demonstrate critical thinking skills by frequently developing and answering various depth of knowledge questions."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one reason for each plan and circle one concern, then number your three marks. Use those details to help you ask and answer questions.

What Should Happen to the Lot?

1. On Maple Street, a vacant lot sits beside the public library. The town council has money to improve it, but only for one plan this year. At a public meeting, residents can speak before the council votes. Council members ask people to support their ideas with reasons, not just say what they like. The meeting record lists two plans and the concerns people raised.

2. The first plan is a community garden with raised beds. Volunteers say families could grow vegetables and learn to care for plants. However, volunteers would need to water the beds during dry weeks. The second plan is a place to sit, with benches and a shade tree. Library visitors could read outdoors, but the tree would take years to grow large enough to give much shade.

3. At the meeting, Mr. Lee says he wants a place where his grandmother can rest on her walk to the library. A student named Ana says her class could help care for a garden. Another resident asks who will care for either place next summer. The council does not vote that night. Members ask residents to send in more questions and possible answers before their next meeting.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write and answer a who question about a person who spoke at the meeting.

2. Write and answer a why question about the council's choice not to vote that night.

3. Write and answer a question that compares what people could do at each planned place.

4. Write and answer a question about which plan better meets Mr. Lee's goal. Support your answer with a passage detail.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new question about how a resident could support a plan and address a concern about it. Answer your question using two details from the passage, then explain how your answer could help the council.

ANSWER KEY

Questions Before a Vote

GRADE 5 · 5.P.1.2.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one reason for each plan and circle one concern, then number your three marks. Use those details to help you ask and answer questions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write and answer a who question about a person who spoke at the meeting.	**Who said her class could help care for a garden? Ana.**
2	Write and answer a why question about the council's choice not to vote that night.	**Why did the council wait to vote? Members wanted residents to send more questions and possible answers before the next meeting.**
3	Write and answer a question that compares what people could do at each planned place.	**How would people use the two places differently? Families could grow vegetables in the garden, while library visitors could sit and read outdoors at the benches.**
4	Write and answer a question about which plan better meets Mr. Lee's goal. Support your answer with a passage detail.	**Which plan better meets Mr. Lee's goal? The benches and shade tree plan, because Mr. Lee wants a place where his grandmother can rest on her walk to the library.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

How could Ana support the garden and address a concern about it? Ana says her class could help care for a garden. Volunteers would need to water the beds during dry weeks, so her class could offer to help with watering. This answer could help the council decide whether the garden would have enough help.

Accept other questions that fit the requested type and answers supported by the passage. For Your Turn, the answer may suggest a reasonable action, but it must use two passage details and explain how the action helps the council decide.