Where Should Trees Grow?

Compare three writers' purposes and methods

6.P.3.2.A "Analyze works written on the same topic and compare methods the authors used to achieve similar or different purposes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the scene Text B uses to make its point, circle a warning in Text C, and number the planting sites suggested in the two letters 1 and 2. Use your marks to compare how the writers support their requests.

Shade for the Schoolyard

(1) Text A, Schoolyard Tree Guide. On sunny days, the ground beneath a tree can feel cooler than bare pavement. Leaves block some sunlight, and trees release water into the air, which can help cool nearby spaces. A new shade tree needs regular water while its roots grow. Its roots also need enough open ground to spread. Planting a tree in a narrow strip of soil may make it harder for that tree to thrive. Choosing a site means thinking about both the shade people want and the space a growing tree needs.

(2) Text B, A Student's Letter. Dear Principal Lee, Yesterday at recess, our class lined up against the fence, hunting for a scrap of shade. The metal slide was too hot for us to use right away. Please plant two shade trees along the fence by the play area. In a few years, their leaves could make recess more comfortable. We could help water the young trees after school with our garden club. I know trees take time to grow, but we can start now so future students will have a cooler place to play.

(3) Text C, A Groundskeeper's Letter. Dear Principal Lee, I agree that our playground needs more shade, but I would not plant trees close to the fence beside the swings. Branches may grow into the play area, and roots need room beyond a thin strip of soil. Instead, I suggest planting trees by the picnic benches, where there is open ground. Students could rest in their shade, and the trees would have more space to grow. I can help choose a site and make a plan for watering the trees while they are young.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the purposes of Text A and Text B differ? Name one method each writer uses to meet that purpose.

2. Both letter writers want more shade. How does each use details about the schoolyard to support a different planting site?

3. Text A and Text C both discuss what roots need. How does each writer use that idea for a different purpose?

4. How does Text B's method of asking for help differ from Text C's? Explain what each writer offers to do.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences to Principal Lee. Compare one method Text B uses with one method Text C uses, then propose a different way to give students shade while trees grow, using a vivid detail and a practical reason.

ANSWER KEY

Where Should Trees Grow?

GRADE 6 · 6.P.3.2.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the scene Text B uses to make its point, circle a warning in Text C, and number the planting sites suggested in the two letters 1 and 2. Use your marks to compare how the writers support their requests. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the purposes of Text A and Text B differ? Name one method each writer uses to meet that purpose.	**Text A informs readers about tree shade and growing needs using explanations. Text B asks the principal to plant trees using a scene from recess.**
2	Both letter writers want more shade. How does each use details about the schoolyard to support a different planting site?	**Text B describes students seeking shade by the fence and asks for trees there. Text C warns about branches and limited root space near the play area, then suggests the open ground by the picnic benches.**
3	Text A and Text C both discuss what roots need. How does each writer use that idea for a different purpose?	**Text A explains that roots need open ground to help readers choose a site. Text C uses that concern to persuade the principal to plant by the picnic benches instead of near the swings.**
4	How does Text B's method of asking for help differ from Text C's? Explain what each writer offers to do.	**Text B offers the garden club's help watering trees to support a request to plant along the fence. Text C offers to choose a site and plan watering to support planting by the benches.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Text B describes students hunting for shade, while Text C warns that trees need room to grow. Both writers want cooler recess, but they suggest different planting spots. I suggest putting a secured shade canopy over the benches while new trees grow. On a bright day, students could sit out of the sun there, and a canopy would provide shade sooner than young trees.

Accept comparisons that accurately connect a writer's details to the writer's purpose. For the open response, accept a feasible shade idea other than planting trees if the student compares both writers' methods and includes a vivid detail and a practical reason.