Words That Matter

Use source evidence without copying someone else's writing.

8.P.4.2.B "Quote, paraphrase, and summarize findings, avoiding plagiarism."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number three useful findings, one in each paragraph. Then underline words in paragraph 2 you could quote and circle a finding in paragraph 3 you could paraphrase.

When Safety Failed

1 On March 25, 1911, a fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City. The factory occupied the top three floors of a ten-story building, where workers made women's blouses. Many employees were young immigrant women. Fabric scraps and paper patterns fed the flames, which spread quickly through the crowded workrooms. Some workers escaped by climbing to the roof and crossing to a neighboring building. Others could not reach a safe exit. By the time the fire was out, 146 workers had died.

2 The disaster exposed dangerous limits in the building's escape routes. Some exit doors were locked, and the outside fire escape collapsed under the weight of people trying to leave. Firefighters' ladders could not reach the highest floors. People on the street watched as workers faced a terrible choice between the flames and the long drop to the pavement. The factory had passed a fire inspection before the disaster, yet the inspection had not made the building safe for everyone inside. Safety on paper did not mean safety in practice.

3 After the fire, workers, families, and labor organizers demanded stronger protections. New York State created the Factory Investigating Commission in 1911 to examine working conditions. Its investigators visited workplaces and gathered testimony about dangers employees faced. In the following years, New York passed laws that strengthened fire safety rules and required improvements in factory buildings. These changes did not erase the loss of 146 lives, and they did not solve every workplace problem. Still, the fire became a powerful argument for public oversight of worker safety.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Quote the sentence in paragraph 2 about the firefighters' ladders. Name the passage as your source.

2. Paraphrase what happened to the outside fire escape. Name the passage as your source.

3. Summarize the main events in paragraph 1 in one sentence. Name the passage as your source.

4. A student copied this sentence without credit: "New York passed laws that strengthened fire safety rules and required improvements in factory buildings." Rewrite the finding in your own words and name the passage as your source.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a two-sentence museum caption about how people responded after the fire. In one sentence, quote the passage's finding about who demanded change; in the other, paraphrase its finding about the commission. Name the passage as your source in both sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Words That Matter

GRADE 8 · 8.P.4.2.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number three useful findings, one in each paragraph. Then underline words in paragraph 2 you could quote and circle a finding in paragraph 3 you could paraphrase. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Quote the sentence in paragraph 2 about the firefighters' ladders. Name the passage as your source.	**In "When Safety Failed," the passage states, "Firefighters' ladders could not reach the highest floors."**
2	Paraphrase what happened to the outside fire escape. Name the passage as your source.	**According to "When Safety Failed," the emergency stairway outside the building gave way as workers crowded onto it.**
3	Summarize the main events in paragraph 1 in one sentence. Name the passage as your source.	**In "When Safety Failed," a fast-moving factory fire in New York City killed 146 workers, although some escaped across the roof.**
4	A student copied this sentence without credit: "New York passed laws that strengthened fire safety rules and required improvements in factory buildings." Rewrite the finding in your own words and name the passage as your source.	**According to "When Safety Failed," New York later required better fire protection in factories.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In "When Safety Failed," the author writes, "After the fire, workers, families, and labor organizers demanded stronger protections." According to "When Safety Failed," New York formed a commission in 1911 to study working conditions.

Accept accurate paraphrases and summaries that use substantially different wording from the passage and credit it by title. Quoted words and punctuation must match the passage exactly.