Shade With a Purpose

Shape a research-based proposal for the people who will decide.

TOT.P.4.2.C "Construct presentations or products for a designated audience, using research and reasoning to enhance understanding of a topic or issue."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the speaker's request to the board and circle the two research findings. Number two sentences that show how the proposal addresses the board's responsibilities.

A Bus Stop Shade Pilot

1. Members of the city transportation board, I am asking you to test shade at one bus stop near a health clinic. Riders waiting for a bus cannot always step indoors when the sun is strongest. A shelter with a roof could make the wait safer and more comfortable, especially for people traveling to medical appointments. I am not asking for shelters at every stop today. A single pilot would let the board gather local information before choosing where to spend more money. That limited request fits your responsibility to improve service while managing public funds.

2. Research makes this more than a preference for a nicer stop. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention explains that extreme heat can cause heat exhaustion and heat stroke. The Environmental Protection Agency explains that shade from trees reduces direct sun exposure and can help cool nearby spaces. A roof is not a tree, and shade alone cannot prevent every heat illness. Still, giving riders a place out of direct sun is a reasonable way to reduce one source of heat exposure while they wait. These findings support testing shade, not claiming it solves every health risk.

3. To keep the pilot useful, I would ask staff to record the cost of installing and maintaining the shelter and to count riders at the stop during hot afternoons. Staff could also ask riders whether the new shade changes where they wait. A shelter must leave enough room for wheelchairs to reach the bus, so an accessible layout should be part of the design from the start. After one warm season, the board could review costs, rider feedback, and access before deciding whether to expand the program. That is a testable proposal, not a promise that every stop needs a shelter.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the speaker limit the request to fit the transportation board's responsibility for public funds?

2. Choose one research finding in the pitch. Explain how the speaker uses it to support the proposed pilot.

3. Why does the speaker say that a roof is not a tree and that shade cannot prevent every heat illness?

4. Which two types of information from the pilot would help the board decide whether to expand it? Explain why each matters to that decision.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 70 to 90 word pitch to your principal proposing a cafeteria food-scrap reduction trial. Use this research finding: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says food scraps in landfills produce methane as they break down. Explain how the finding supports your plan and address one practical concern.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the speaker's request to the board and circle the two research findings. Number two sentences that show how the proposal addresses the board's responsibilities. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the speaker limit the request to fit the transportation board's responsibility for public funds?	**The speaker requests one pilot rather than shelters at every stop, so the board can gather information before spending more money.**
2	Choose one research finding in the pitch. Explain how the speaker uses it to support the proposed pilot.	**The CDC finding about heat illness supports testing a way to reduce riders' heat exposure. Accept the EPA finding if the student connects shade to reduced direct sun exposure.**
3	Why does the speaker say that a roof is not a tree and that shade cannot prevent every heat illness?	**The speaker acknowledges limits in the evidence instead of claiming that the research proves a roof will prevent heat illness.**
4	Which two types of information from the pilot would help the board decide whether to expand it? Explain why each matters to that decision.	**For example, installation and maintenance costs show what expansion might require, while rider feedback shows whether the shade helps people waiting at the stop. Accept other supported choices, including rider counts and wheelchair access.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Garcia, I propose a two-week trial that collects cafeteria food scraps for composting instead of sending them to the landfill. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says food scraps in landfills produce methane as they break down. Diverting scraps could reduce waste that generates methane, and weighing the collected scraps would show whether the trial is working. Staff time is a real concern, so student volunteers could help sort lunch waste while custodial staff check whether the process is manageable.

For the marking job, accept sentences about limited spending, collecting costs, or wheelchair access as audience-focused reasoning. In the original pitch, look for a clear request to the principal, accurate use of the supplied finding, a reasoned connection to the plan, and a practical concern.