After the Bell

Weigh evidence before recommending a change

12.CL.13 "Evaluate the credibility and accuracy of sources from diverse media and/or formats and then use multiple suitable sources of information to develop an idea or further a position."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one claim that goes beyond what its source can prove, circle two details that help you judge a source's credibility, and number two sources you could use together to make a recommendation.

Should the Library Stay Open?

1. At a school board meeting, students asked to keep the library open until 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A student council poll found that 82 of 120 respondents favored the change. The council posted a QR code inside the library, so frequent library users were more likely to see it than students who leave promptly. The poll records preferences, not whether respondents would actually stay. Its online summary includes the question and response count but does not say how many students saw the code. The result suggests interest among respondents, yet it cannot measure schoolwide demand.

2. A short student video argues that the library is "empty every afternoon." Its only footage shows the room at 3:55 p.m. on a Friday, five minutes before closing. The video identifies its filming time but offers no attendance records. A separate library door log, kept by staff, records 32 entries between 3 and 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays over four weeks. Staff recorded entries as they happened, making the log more useful for checking the video's sweeping claim. Still, entries are visits, not unique students, and the log cannot show how many people would stay after 4.

3. The district's posted board minutes include a facilities estimate of $4,000 to staff both late afternoons for one semester. Unlike the poll or video, the minutes document a projected cost, though an estimate is not a final bill. The minutes do not report whether the district has approved the money. Taken together, these sources support testing the schedule rather than promising permanent hours: the poll signals interest, the log challenges the video's claim, and the estimate sets a planning limit. Before a decision, the board could collect a schoolwide sample and count actual visits during a short trial.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the student council poll support, and why should the board avoid treating its result as schoolwide demand?

2. Which source better tests the video's claim that the library is “empty every afternoon”? Explain both its advantage and one limit.

3. What can the posted board minutes establish about late hours, and what financial conclusion would go beyond their evidence?

4. Based on the sources together, why is a trial more defensible than a promise of permanent late hours?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a brief recommendation for how the board should run and evaluate a four-week late-hours trial. Use evidence from at least two different source formats, explain a limit of each, and propose one new measure that would help the board decide whether to continue. Then deliver your recommendation in a one- to two-minute talk to a partner acting as a board member. Use your notes, identify both sources, and explain why their evidence supports your plan. Your listener summarizes the recommendation and asks one question for you to answer.

ANSWER KEY

After the Bell

GRADE 12 · 12.CL.13

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one claim that goes beyond what its source can prove, circle two details that help you judge a source's credibility, and number two sources you could use together to make a recommendation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the student council poll support, and why should the board avoid treating its result as schoolwide demand?	**It shows interest among 82 of 120 respondents, but a QR code posted inside the library was more likely to reach library users than other students.**
2	Which source better tests the video's claim that the library is “empty every afternoon”? Explain both its advantage and one limit.	**The staff door log is better because it records 32 entries across four weeks, rather than showing one moment on a Friday. Its entries count visits, not unique students, and do not show attendance after 4 p.m.**
3	What can the posted board minutes establish about late hours, and what financial conclusion would go beyond their evidence?	**They document an estimated $4,000 staffing cost for one semester. They do not establish the final cost or show that funding has been approved.**
4	Based on the sources together, why is a trial more defensible than a promise of permanent late hours?	**The poll suggests interest, the log challenges the video's broad claim, and the minutes provide a cost estimate. None establishes schoolwide demand, attendance after 4 p.m., or approved funding.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I recommend a four-week trial with the library open until 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The staff door log records 32 entries from 3 to 4 p.m. across four weeks, which challenges the video's claim that the library is always empty. It cannot predict visits after 4. The posted board minutes estimate $4,000 for a semester of late hours, which helps with planning but is not a price for this trial or proof of available funds. During the trial, staff could offer anonymous exit slips asking how students used the extra hour, then compare those responses with attendance and staffing costs.

Accept other well-supported judgments that distinguish what each source documents from what it cannot establish. For the open task, assess the student's spoken recommendation: listen for a workable trial plan, accurate use of at least two source formats, an explanation of why their evidence is suitable, a limit of each source, and a new measure. The student should connect the sources to the plan and answer the listener's question with relevant evidence or acknowledge what remains unknown. Written preparation alone is insufficient. The sample is a preparation model; an actual talk and response are required.