

Heat Plan Debate

Compare conclusions and the reasoning behind them.

11.RI.3.A "Analyze information within and between paired passages for similar and conflicting ideas and how authors reach similar or different conclusions."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB These are original classroom position texts by fictional speakers. Passage A has two paragraphs; Passage B has one. Underline each funding priority and circle supporting reasons. Mark one shared idea S and one disagreement D.

Two Plans for Cooler Cities

- ① **Passage A: Shade Where People Walk, by Lila Chen.** Our first heat-program funds should protect mature street trees and establish a planting-and-care program along busy walking routes. Trees provide direct shade, and their transpiration contributes cooling. A shaded route matters to a person who must walk to a bus or school. Roof improvements have value, but they do not cast shade over an exposed stop. Public routes belong in the heat budget, especially where people have few alternatives to walking.
- ② **Passage A continued.** We must distinguish protecting existing shade from creating new shade. Young trees take time to develop broad canopies. Planting this spring will not cover every bare stop this summer, so temporary shade may also be needed. My priority is to preserve useful mature trees, choose suitable new sites and fund continuing care. I would compare pedestrian use and existing shade before selecting sites. That approach directs investment toward daily outdoor exposure while acknowledging that a tree program cannot meet every immediate need.

- ③ **Passage B: Begin with Buildings, by Mateo Ruiz.** I share Chen's concern about heat, but I would fund reflective roofs on suitable public buildings first. A roof treatment can reduce absorbed sunlight without waiting for a canopy to grow, and cool roofs can benefit indoor and surrounding-air temperatures. In our fictional planning case, several public roofs are already scheduled for replacement next month; evaluating reflective options now could fit that work. Roofs will not shade bus stops, and costs and building conditions still need review. Yet improving places where people spend hours indoors is my first priority. Protect existing trees too, but begin new investment with these scheduled roof projects.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- ① What concern do the writers share, and where do their funding priorities differ?

- ② Trace two steps in Chen's reasoning from residents' needs to a spending priority.

- ③ How do the scheduled projects and canopy-growth delay support Ruiz's conclusion? Identify a condition he still needs to check.

- ④ Compare how both writers acknowledge a limitation. Does either claim a complete or instant solution?

Compare and evaluate

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

These are original classroom position texts by fictional speakers. Passage A has two paragraphs; Passage B has one. Underline each funding priority and circle supporting reasons. Mark one shared idea S and one disagreement D. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What concern do the writers share, and where do their funding priorities differ?	Both want to reduce heat exposure. Chen prioritizes protecting street shade and a tree program along walking routes; Ruiz prioritizes reflective options for scheduled public-roof projects.
2	Trace two steps in Chen's reasoning from residents' needs to a spending priority.	People must use walking routes, and trees provide direct shade there. Chen therefore prioritizes existing shade and suitable new sites, using pedestrian use and shade information to target spending.
3	How do the scheduled projects and canopy-growth delay support Ruiz's conclusion? Identify a condition he still needs to check.	Existing roof work creates a near-term opportunity, while new canopy takes time. He still needs costs and building-condition information before choosing suitable reflective options.
4	Compare how both writers acknowledge a limitation. Does either claim a complete or instant solution?	Chen admits that planting will not shade bare stops this summer; Ruiz admits roofs do not shade stops. Both propose a priority while recognizing needs their plan cannot meet alone.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both writers want to reduce heat exposure, but they prioritize different places and opportunities. Chen emphasizes walking routes because people must use them and trees provide direct shade. She combines protection of mature trees with suitable planting and care. Ruiz prioritizes public buildings because scheduled roof work offers an opportunity to reduce heat without waiting for canopy growth. For pedestrians' near-term needs, Chen's protection of existing shade is more directly relevant. However, it does not create shade at every bare stop, and her new trees need time. Her mention of temporary shade recognizes that gap. Ruiz's building improvements remain useful even though they do not shade the waiting areas.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT NOTES

Accept other qualified judgments supported by the texts. A new planting is not immediate mature canopy. All local people and project schedules are fictional. Science background: EPA, Benefits of Trees and Vegetation, <https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/benefits-trees-and-vegetation> ; Using Cool Roofs to Reduce Heat Islands, <https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/using-cool-roofs-reduce-heat-islands> .