

Match the Message

Deliver the same proposal in language suited to two audiences.

12.C.2.A.ii “Report orally on a topic or text or present an opinion. This includes: Choosing appropriate vocabulary, language, and tone for a selected topic, purpose, context, and audience when speaking and presenting.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that recognize the council’s decision-making role. Circle wording that qualifies uncertain information. Mark the contrasting request to students and explain why its purpose differs.

A Plaza Proposal: Audience and Evidence

- ① In this fictional public-comment exercise, a speaker addresses the city council: “Good evening, Council Members and neighbors. Please consider a site study for a shaded plaza on Pine Street. Trees and benches could create a place to rest, but the design, cost, and maintenance still need review. I recognize that you must compare this proposal with other needs. I am asking for information that supports a decision, not immediate construction approval.” The opening names a specific action within the council’s role.
- ② The planning card gives a preliminary construction estimate of \$180,000, excluding annual upkeep. No funded budget, staffing allocation, or maintenance estimate exists yet. A careful speaker might say, “The preliminary capital estimate covers construction only; please ask staff to assess recurring costs.” Specific vocabulary helps only when the speaker explains its meaning and limits. Calling the project “cheap” or saying upkeep is already covered would overstate the card. A measured tone does not turn an unsupported statement into evidence.

- ③ At a student meeting, the immediate purpose changes. Students can describe desired uses and questions; they cannot authorize city spending. The speaker might ask, “Where would you sit or wait, and what would make the space useful? Help us collect ideas to take to the council.”
- Everyday wording and an invitation fit that audience. Neither version needs jargon or flattery. The same proposal can use different vocabulary, sentence patterns, and requests while keeping its factual limits. Work with a partner or teacher as listener; all planning details here are invented classroom materials.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- ① What action does the speaker ask the council to take, and why does it fit the audience?

- ② Why is “\$180,000 capital estimate” incomplete without an explanation?

- ③ Rewrite “It is cheap and upkeep is already covered” using the card accurately.

- ④ How does the student request differ from the council request?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write and deliver two versions of a request about this fictional plaza. Address the council in 90–110 words, then adapt the message for a student meeting in 30–45 words. Keep the facts consistent while changing vocabulary, tone, and the action you ask of each audience.

Council statement

Write 90-110 words with a specific request, respectful language, and the estimate's construction-only limit. Do not claim approval or guaranteed benefits.

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.

Student version

Write 30–45 words inviting useful student participation. Change at least two language choices while preserving the proposal's uncertainty.

Deliver both and reflect

Deliver both versions to your partner in the two roles. The listener identifies the intended audience and one fitting phrase in each. Record two deliberate language changes and one comment about how the spoken tone affected clarity. Exchange roles.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words that recognize the council's decision-making role. Circle wording that qualifies uncertain information. Mark the contrasting request to students and explain why its purpose differs. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What action does the speaker ask the council to take, and why does it fit the audience?	Commission a site study or request staff information, allowing officials to assess costs and competing needs before a funding decision.
2	Why is "\$180,000 capital estimate" incomplete without an explanation?	Listeners need to know it is preliminary, covers construction and excludes annual upkeep; it is not an approved total budget.
3	Rewrite "It is cheap and upkeep is already covered" using the card accurately.	The preliminary construction estimate is \$180,000; annual upkeep and funding still require review.
4	How does the student request differ from the council request?	Students are invited to identify uses and questions; the council can direct official study and later decide about spending.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Good evening, Council Members. Please direct staff to study options for a shaded plaza on Pine Street. Trees and seating could give neighbors a place to rest, but the proposal still needs design and maintenance review. The planning card's \$180,000 figure is a preliminary construction estimate, not a complete operating budget. Before considering funding, could you request an upkeep estimate and compare this project with other local needs? A public review would also let residents explain how they might use the space. I ask for that investigation now so a later decision rests on clearer information.

Student version: Where would you sit, meet, or wait in a Pine Street plaza? Help us collect ideas and questions for the council. The design and costs still need review, so let's describe useful features without promising construction.

Illustrative delivery reflection: I changed "direct staff to study" to "help us collect ideas" because students can contribute experiences rather than authorize a study. I replaced the capital-budget detail with a plain statement that costs need review. My listener said the second version sounded inviting without implying approval.

Count the two spoken versions separately; reflection is outside both ranges. Observe actual delivery and evaluate vocabulary, sentence choices, tone, audience role, and factual consistency. Respectful speech can be direct; do not score politeness as obedience or require stiff formal language. The estimate is fictional, preliminary and construction-only. Requests for cost review do not establish affordability.