

Shade the Wait

Analyze how a public proposal builds support for a specific action.

10.T.T.3 "Argumentative Techniques: Evaluate and apply argumentative techniques to enhance text's appeal to audiences or achieve specific purposes."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read this classroom simulation. All town records and events are invented. Underline the main claim and final request. Label one example each: E for numerical evidence, A for emotional appeal, and C for a counterargument with its response. A passage can use more than one technique.

A Request for Safer Bus Stops

- ① Members of the Riverton City Council, please add shade at busy bus stops. Last July, I watched a preschooler and her grandfather leave an unshaded sidewalk for a thin strip of shade in a parking lot. They hurried back when the bus arrived. Imagine making that choice while carrying groceries or helping a small child. A bus stop should offer a reasonable place to wait, not send riders searching the street for relief. Would you want your family to wait fifteen minutes beside an empty road with no tree or roof overhead?
- ② Our simulated city weather record lists eighteen days at or above 95 degrees last summer. A simulated transit count found that the twenty busiest stops accounted for 60 percent of weekday boardings during one survey week. The temperature record establishes repeated hot days; the boarding count suggests where shade might reach many riders. Neither record tells us how many people waited in direct sun, and boardings are not a count of unique people. Still, these records give the council a reason to investigate the busiest stops first rather than choose sites at random.

- ③ Some residents will argue that shelters cost too much. That concern deserves an answer, not dismissal. The city already plans sidewalk upgrades, so staff could compare the cost of adding shade during that work with installing it separately. No estimate is available yet; an existing road budget does not prove that shelters are affordable. Please commission a cost study of the twenty busiest stops this fall, including space and access constraints. Then use the findings to choose a limited pilot. Careful planning can turn our promise of usable public spaces into an action the council can evaluate.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- ① Identify the main proposal and the final action requested. Why might the final request appeal to council members concerned about spending?

- ② Evaluate the anecdote and the question about the reader's family. How do they appeal to this audience, and what can they NOT establish?

- ③ How do the two numerical records serve different purposes? Name one limitation of each.

- 4** Evaluate the response to the cost objection. What makes it more credible than simply saying the road budget will pay for shelters?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 90-110-word message asking Principal Lopez to investigate a water-refill station near the gym. Supplied classroom-simulation fact: in a student council survey, 68 percent of respondents said they bring reusable bottles. Use that evidence accurately, address a cost objection, and end with a specific request. Do not invent survey findings, current fountain locations, costs or measured benefits. Proposed actions may be conditional.

Make a supported request

Write the complete message. Check audience, evidence, counterargument, response and final action. Keep the total within 90-110 words.

[illegible]

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Read this classroom simulation. All town records and events are invented. Underline the main claim and final request. Label one example each: E for numerical evidence, A for emotional appeal, and C for a counterargument with its response. A passage can use more than one technique. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Identify the main proposal and the final action requested. Why might the final request appeal to council members concerned about spending?	The proposal is shade at busy bus stops; the immediate request is a cost study of the twenty busiest stops, followed by a limited pilot. Studying costs and constraints gives budget-conscious members information before committing to construction.
2	Evaluate the anecdote and the question about the reader's family. How do they appeal to this audience, and what can they NOT establish?	They make waiting without shade concrete and invite council members to imagine relatives affected, connecting public decisions to concern for people. A single anecdote and rhetorical question cannot establish how common the experience is or quantify benefits.
3	How do the two numerical records serve different purposes? Name one limitation of each.	The eighteen hot days show repeated heat, but not who waited in direct sun. The 60 percent boarding share suggests where many trips begin, but one week may not represent all weeks and boardings are not unique riders.
4	Evaluate the response to the cost objection. What makes it more credible than simply saying the road budget will pay for shelters?	It acknowledges missing estimates and asks staff to compare installation options and constraints. It proposes a way to investigate affordability instead of claiming an existing budget proves funds are sufficient.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Lopez, please investigate a water-refill station near the gym. In a student council survey, 68 percent of respondents said they bring reusable bottles. That suggests a potential audience for a station, although it does not show how many students would use this location. Installation may be expensive. Before committing funds, we could ask facilities staff for an estimate and survey students about where they refill bottles. If the cost and demand support the idea, a limited trial could help evaluate it. Please ask the facilities team and student council to prepare those findings for your review.

All local records, events and the student survey are classroom simulations. Marking examples: E, eighteen hot days or 60 percent of boardings; A, the child and grandfather or the family question; C, the cost objection and proposed cost study. Accept defensible evaluations tied to the intended audience. The writing must distinguish survey respondents from all students, offer a reasoned response to cost, and make a specific request. The sample contains 97 words.