Night Park Views

Compare how three forms shape one subject.

ELA.8.R.3 "Reading Across Genres"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle one clue in each paragraph that shows its form, then write the form name in the margin. Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows what the writer wants readers to understand or do.

After Sunset at Riverbend

1. On June 14, volunteers at Riverbend Park counted 43 little brown bats leaving a wooden roost box at dusk. The box was installed in March beside a wet meadow, where insects gather. Bats use echolocation, sending out high sounds and listening for echoes, to locate prey in darkness. Because one bat may eat many insects in a night, park staff will compare future insect counts with this first observation. The survey begins again at sunset next month.

2. Dear Parks Director, Last Saturday, I watched families leave Riverbend Park after the evening game. Several people stopped near the roost box, but no sign explained why the bats mattered. Could the park place a small sign there and aim existing path lights away from the box? These changes would help visitors notice the animals without shining bright light into their shelter. I would also volunteer to help write the sign for visitors. Sincerely, Maya Ortiz

3. At sundown, the meadow opens its dark umbrella. One wing flickers, then forty more rise from the wooden doorway. They stitch the sky with quick black thread, quiet as held breath. Below, the path light spills a pale coin on grass. I stand still, while the night gathers its small sails and carries them over the sleeping park, past the river's silver bend, where crickets click and windows turn gold in houses beyond the trees.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What genre is each paragraph? Give one clue from each paragraph that supports your answer.

2. How does the first paragraph use factual details to help readers understand the bats at Riverbend Park? Use two details in your answer.

3. What does Maya want the Parks Director to do? Which details show her purpose?

4. How does the poem present the bats differently from the first paragraph? Use one detail from each paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Create a 3-sentence field-guide entry about the Riverbend bats. Include a heading, two accurate facts from the passage, and a labeled fact that helps readers find information quickly.

ANSWER KEY

Night Park Views

GRADE 8 · ELA.8.R.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle one clue in each paragraph that shows its form, then write the form name in the margin. Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows what the writer wants readers to understand or do. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What genre is each paragraph? Give one clue from each paragraph that supports your answer.	**Paragraph 1 is an informational report, shown by facts such as the June 14 count of 43 bats and the explanation of echolocation. Paragraph 2 is a formal letter, shown by the greeting, request, and closing. Paragraph 3 is a poem, presented as a prose poem, with figurative language such as "dark umbrella."**
2	How does the first paragraph use factual details to help readers understand the bats at Riverbend Park? Use two details in your answer.	**It gives a specific observation, 43 bats counted on June 14, and explains that bats use echolocation to find prey. It also connects bats to insect counts because bats may eat many insects in one night.**
3	What does Maya want the Parks Director to do? Which details show her purpose?	**Maya wants the park to add a sign near the roost box and direct path lights away from it. Her questions about placing a sign and aiming lights away show this purpose.**
4	How does the poem present the bats differently from the first paragraph? Use one detail from each paragraph.	**The poem presents bats through images, comparing them to "quick black thread" and "small sails." The first paragraph presents them through observations and scientific information, such as the count of 43 bats and echolocation.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Riverbend Night Hunters

Little brown bats leave a wooden roost box near a wet meadow at dusk. They use echolocation, sending high sounds and listening for echoes, to locate prey in darkness. Food: A bat may eat many insects in one night.

Accept equivalent genre names, such as factual report or informational article for paragraph 1. For the open task, accept accurate details from the passage and a clear field-guide style with a heading and labeled fact.