Trace the Source

Connect evidence, inference, and citation.

10.T.RA.2.c "Follow Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines when responding to inferential questions about texts or when integrating and citing textual evidence, ensuring each source is accompanied by a basic entry on a works cited page. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each parenthetical citation, underline each claim or recommendation that uses source information, and number each citation to match its Works Cited entry. These marks show how evidence supports an inference.

A Quieter, Darker Brookvale

1. Brookvale's riverside park has bright parking-lot lamps that remain on after midnight. DarkSky International explains that unshielded outdoor lighting can send light upward and sideways, producing skyglow that hides stars and affects wildlife (DarkSky International). I recommend that the town replace the most wasteful fixtures with fully shielded ones near the park. Shielded fixtures direct light downward, so they could let people use the paths while reducing unnecessary light near the river. The parenthetical citation shows which source supports information about lighting and its effects.

2. Noise is also part of the park's environment. The National Park Service states that natural sounds help animals communicate, find food, and avoid danger, while unwanted noise can interfere with these activities (National Park Service). In Brookvale, delivery trucks often use the road beside the river at dawn. The town could post a lower speed limit on that stretch and ask drivers to avoid unnecessary horn use. These steps may make the area more useful to animals and more peaceful for people who walk there early each morning before school.

3. Together, the two sources support a policy that considers both light and sound. Brookvale's council should test shielded lamps in the riverside lot and reduce early-morning traffic noise on the adjacent road. These actions would respond to concerns described by DarkSky International and the National Park Service (DarkSky International; National Park Service). A reader can trace each parenthetical citation to a matching entry on the accompanying Works Cited page for more details.

1 WORKS CITED

Use with the passage

DarkSky International. “What Is Light Pollution?” darksky.org/resources/what-is-light-pollution/. Accessed 17 Aug. 2026.

National Park Service. “Natural Sounds.” www.nps.gov/subjects/sound/index.htm. Accessed 17 Aug. 2026.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What proposal appears in paragraph 1, and which source name appears in that paragraph's parenthetical citation?

2. How do the National Park Service evidence and the detail about delivery trucks support the writer's traffic proposal?

3. What shared purpose connects the lighting proposal and the traffic-noise proposal? Use details from both paragraphs to make an inference.

4. What feature of each Works Cited entry lets a reader match it to its parenthetical citation?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one source from the Works Cited list. Write exactly two sentences that infer a different action Brookvale could take, support the inference with an MLA parenthetical citation, and then write the matching basic Works Cited entry. Put the entry under a Works Cited heading on a separate sheet, with hanging indentation if it wraps.

ANSWER KEY

Trace the Source

GRADE 10 · 10.T.RA.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each parenthetical citation, underline each claim or recommendation that uses source information, and number each citation to match its Works Cited entry. These marks show how evidence supports an inference. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What proposal appears in paragraph 1, and which source name appears in that paragraph's parenthetical citation?	**The town should replace wasteful fixtures with fully shielded ones near the park; DarkSky International.**
2	How do the National Park Service evidence and the detail about delivery trucks support the writer's traffic proposal?	**The source explains that unwanted noise can interfere with animals' activities, and dawn truck traffic could create that noise. This supports lowering speeds and reducing horn use.**
3	What shared purpose connects the lighting proposal and the traffic-noise proposal? Use details from both paragraphs to make an inference.	**Both proposals aim to reduce human-made disturbances in the riverside park, which could benefit wildlife and make the park more pleasant for people.**
4	What feature of each Works Cited entry lets a reader match it to its parenthetical citation?	**Each entry begins with the same corporate author name used in the parenthetical citation, either DarkSky International or National Park Service.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Brookvale could install motion sensors on lights along rarely used paths, so lamps operate only when visitors need them. This change could reduce unnecessary nighttime light near the river (DarkSky International).

Works Cited

DarkSky International. "What Is Light Pollution?" darksky.org/resources/what-is-light-pollution/. Accessed 17 Aug. 2026.

Accept reasonable local actions if the inference follows from the chosen source, the parenthetical citation names that source, and the Works Cited entry begins with the same author name. The corporate author is not repeated as a publisher when it is the same organization. Keep the response sentences separate from the labeled Works Cited entry; entries on the supplied Works Cited page are alphabetized and use hanging indentation. The original source details and historical access dates are preserved, not represented as newly verified website visits.