Shade Choice Debate

Compare how evidence leads authors to different policy conclusions.

10.RI.3 "Integration of Concepts Evaluate how different authors write about the same topic and shape their presentations or viewpoints of key information using facts, opinions, and reasoning..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline facts or examples each columnist uses. Circle each columnist's conclusion, then number the reasons that lead to it. Read the two separately titled author texts in paragraphs 2 and 3, created for this worksheet with fictional authors and city; they are not quotations from real published columns.

Parking Lot Shade: Two Fictional Classroom Columns

(1) Harbor City is considering a rule that would require new parking lots with more than 50 spaces to include shade. The proposal allows either trees or solar canopies. City staff estimate that paved lots can become much hotter than nearby shaded ground on sunny days, and they cite heat as a health concern. The plan would apply only when a lot is built or substantially rebuilt. Two local columnists agree that drivers need safer, cooler places to park. However, they disagree about which kind of shade the city should favor.

(2) **Shade That Starts Today: by Lena Ortiz**

Drivers need cooler, safer parking areas. Staff warn that sunny pavement can become hotter than shaded ground. I favor solar canopies: they provide shade as soon as construction ends, and their panels can produce electricity while covering cars. That is a second public benefit. Trees also cool a site, but young trees need years of growth and regular watering before they cast broad shade. The city should require solar canopies in newly built large lots unless engineering conditions make them impossible. Immediate protection should guide our choice.

③ A Rule That Fits Each Site: by Marcus Chen

Drivers deserve cooler, safer lots, but one design cannot fit every property. A small grocery owner rebuilding a damaged lot may find a solar canopy too expensive. Trees can fit narrow planting strips where canopy supports might block delivery routes. I accept the concern about heat; I disagree with naming one preferred shade option. Let owners choose trees, solar canopies, or a combination. A flexible rule could create more shaded lots because owners could select what works on each site. Practical access and cost should shape the policy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do Ortiz and Chen use facts and reasoning to reach different policy conclusions?

2. Identify one factual claim Ortiz uses. Explain how she connects that claim to her opinion.

3. How does Chen's example of a small grocery owner shape his presentation of the issue?

4. What key conclusion do both authors share before their recommendations diverge?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences advising the city council about the shade rule. State your recommended policy, use one detail from Ortiz and one from Chen, and explain how those details support your recommendation.

ANSWER KEY

Shade Choice Debate

GRADE 10 · 10.RI.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline facts or examples each columnist uses. Circle each columnist's conclusion, then number the reasons that lead to it. Read the two separately titled author texts in paragraphs 2 and 3, created for this worksheet with fictional authors and city; they are not quotations from real published columns. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do Ortiz and Chen use facts and reasoning to reach different policy conclusions?	**Ortiz uses immediate shade, electricity generation, and the slow growth of young trees to support requiring solar canopies. Chen uses costs and site limits, including narrow strips and delivery routes, to support allowing owners to choose among options.**
2	Identify one factual claim Ortiz uses. Explain how she connects that claim to her opinion.	**Ortiz notes that solar panels can produce electricity while shading cars. She uses this added public benefit to support requiring solar canopies.**
3	How does Chen's example of a small grocery owner shape his presentation of the issue?	**It emphasizes that solar canopies may be too expensive for some rebuilding owners, supporting his argument for a flexible rule.**
4	What key conclusion do both authors share before their recommendations diverge?	**Both agree that drivers need cooler, safer parking areas and that heat from paved lots is a concern.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The city should require a mix of shade options rather than solar canopies alone. Ortiz correctly notes that canopies give immediate shade and can generate electricity. Chen adds that their cost and support structures may not suit every property, while trees can work in narrow strips. A flexible requirement would still address heat and allow owners to select practical shade.

Accept equivalent descriptions of each author's evidence, reasoning, and conclusion. For the open task, accept any defensible policy that accurately uses a detail from each columnist and explains the reasoning. Check comparison against both supplied, separately titled fictional author texts, not a narrator's report of absent columns. Ortiz foregrounds immediacy/added benefit; Chen foregrounds site/cost examples. Original policy recommendations and four key answers remain supported. Classroom authorship is explicitly disclosed; no genuine external quotation is asserted.