Make the Case

Annotate how a persuasive proposal builds a clear claim.

6.W "The student will compose various works for diverse audiences and purposes, linked to grade six content and texts. Modes and Purposes for Writing Write narratives to entertain, to share a personal experience..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's claim and final conclusion, circle transition words, and number each reason that supports the claim. These marks show how the proposal is organized.

A Refill Station Near the Gym

1 Our school should install a water-refill station near the gym. Right now, students often finish practice with empty bottles and must walk across campus to the only fountain. A refill station would make drinking water easier to reach when students need it most. It would also give athletes, clubs, and visiting teams a quick way to refill reusable bottles. For these reasons, the school should add a station before next season begins. This change would solve a daily problem.

2 First, refill stations can reduce trash. During a one-week lunch count, student council volunteers found 146 single-use drink bottles in bins near the gym. Many of those bottles could have been avoided if students had filled reusable bottles. In addition, a station with a bottle-height spout would be more practical than bending a bottle under a low fountain. The station would serve students every school day, so one improvement could help hundreds of practices and events over time.

3 Some people may worry that a refill station costs money to install and maintain. However, the school can compare prices, choose a durable model, and ask the parent group or local businesses to help fund it. The long-term benefit, easier access to water and less bottle waste, is worth planning for. Installing a refill station near the gym is a sensible step that supports students and keeps the campus cleaner for everyone who uses it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's thesis statement?

2. Identify two pieces of evidence or examples that support the writer's claim.

3. Which transition introduces another reason in paragraph 2, and what relationship does it show?

4. How does paragraph 3 respond to a concern and then conclude the proposal?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-paragraph persuasive proposal for one improvement at your school. Include a clear thesis and reason in paragraph 1, another reason with a concrete example or detail and a transition in paragraph 2, and a concern with a response and concluding statement in paragraph 3.

ANSWER KEY

Make the Case

GRADE 6 · 6.W

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's claim and final conclusion, circle transition words, and number each reason that supports the claim. These marks show how the proposal is organized. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's thesis statement?	**Our school should install a water-refill station near the gym.**
2	Identify two pieces of evidence or examples that support the writer's claim.	**Students must walk across campus to the only fountain after practice, and student council volunteers found 146 single-use bottles near the gym during one week.**
3	Which transition introduces another reason in paragraph 2, and what relationship does it show?	**"In addition" introduces another supporting reason. It shows that the writer is adding information.**
4	How does paragraph 3 respond to a concern and then conclude the proposal?	**It addresses the cost concern by suggesting price comparisons and possible funding help. It concludes by restating that the station would support students and keep the campus cleaner.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add two shaded picnic tables near the playground. Students who eat outside would have a cooler place to sit on sunny days. The tables would also give classes a comfortable outdoor spot for reading or small-group work.

In addition, shade would make the space useful for more of the school day. During three lunch periods last week, I saw students move their lunches to the building wall because the nearby benches were hot. Tables with umbrellas would give those students a safer, more comfortable choice.

Some people may say that new tables would cost too much. The school could begin with two tables and seek support from the parent group. Adding shaded picnic tables is a practical way to improve lunch and learning.

Accept accurate paraphrases of the claim, evidence, transition, and conclusion. For the writing task, accept varied school improvements if the response has three organized paragraphs, relevant support, a transition, a response to a concern, and a conclusion.