Sources at Work

Read a model of evidence woven into an argument.

11-12.W.8.c "Fluently integrate information (e.g., paraphrases, summaries, direct quotations, elaborations, and attributions)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each detail drawn from a source, and number the source it comes from. Circle the words that introduce the source or connect its information to the writer's point.

More Than a Borrowed Drill

(1) In the fictional town of Eastbank, a cordless drill has a busier social life than most of its borrowers. Residents can check out equipment they might otherwise buy for a single repair. According to the tool library's checkout log, its two drills were borrowed 63 times during the first six months of operation. That figure does not prove that 63 new drills stayed off store shelves: some borrowers already owned one, and others might have borrowed elsewhere. Still, the log gives the library's director, Lena Cho, a way to describe demand without calling every loan an environmental victory.

(2) A survey of 40 borrowers conducted by the library adds a more personal angle. Twenty-eight respondents said they had put off a household repair because they lacked a tool. Cho argues that the library changes more than shopping habits: "A loose step should not wait for payday." Her remark gives a human scale to the survey result, but it does not show whether each borrower completed a repair. For example, a person who checks out a drill might still need help choosing the right screw or finding time to do the work.

(3) That gap between access and action shaped the library's next experiment. In a follow-up note, volunteers reported that several borrowers returned tools unused because they were unsure how to start. The note did not give a total, so "several" cannot be turned into a percentage. In response, the library began offering short Saturday demonstrations on tasks such as tightening cabinet hinges. Cho says the sessions are meant to make borrowing feel less like a test of expertise. Together, the checkout log, survey, and volunteer note support a modest claim: lending tools can lower one barrier to repair, while instruction may address another.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the writer keep the checkout-log figure from sounding like proof of avoided purchases? Include the figure and one limit.

2. Which survey finding does Cho's quotation put into human terms? Explain the connection without claiming the survey proves more than it does.

3. Paraphrase the volunteers' finding in one sentence. Attribute it to the volunteers and keep the number as uncertain as the passage does.

4. How do the survey and the volunteer note work together in the final claim? Name the different barrier each source helps explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use these fictional source notes: A transit count recorded 46 riders boarding at Oak Street on Tuesday. Resident Mina Ortiz said, "There is nowhere to sit out of the rain." Write four or five sentences proposing an improvement to the stop. Paraphrase the count, weave in Ortiz's quotation, attribute both sources, and explain how they support your proposal.

Sources at Work

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each detail drawn from a source, and number the source it comes from. Circle the words that introduce the source or connect its information to the writer's point. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the writer keep the checkout-log figure from sounding like proof of avoided purchases? Include the figure and one limit.	**The log records 63 drill loans, but the writer notes that some borrowers already owned a drill or might have borrowed one elsewhere.**
2	Which survey finding does Cho's quotation put into human terms? Explain the connection without claiming the survey proves more than it does.	**Twenty-eight of 40 respondents had delayed a repair because they lacked a tool. Cho's remark suggests how urgent such a repair can feel, but the survey does not establish why each borrower lacked a tool.**
3	Paraphrase the volunteers' finding in one sentence. Attribute it to the volunteers and keep the number as uncertain as the passage does.	**According to the volunteers' follow-up note, several borrowers brought back unused tools because they did not know how to begin.**
4	How do the survey and the volunteer note work together in the final claim? Name the different barrier each source helps explain.	**The survey points to a lack of tools as a barrier to repair. The volunteer note points to uncertainty about using those tools, which instruction might address.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

According to Tuesday's transit count, 46 riders boarded at Oak Street, suggesting that a shelter there could serve many people on a single day. Resident Mina Ortiz describes another problem: "There is nowhere to sit out of the rain." Her comment points to the need for both seating and a roof, rather than a sign marking the stop. One day's count cannot establish typical ridership, but together these sources make a case for considering a covered bench.

Accept accurate paraphrases and different wording for the sources' connections. In Part 3, look for clear attribution, a quotation integrated into a sentence, and an explanation that does not treat one day's count as typical ridership.