A Corner for Stories

Read an opinion and trace its groups of reasons.

3.W.1.a "Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that introduces the topic and circle the sentence that states the writer's opinion. Write 1 and 2 beside the paragraphs that group different reasons.

A Reading Spot for Our Class

1 A reading spot could fit in the empty corner of our classroom. Right now, that corner holds a stack of old boxes. I think our class should turn it into a reading spot. We would not need fancy furniture or new books. A few small changes could give us a comfortable place to sit and an easy way to find stories we want to read.

2 First, the corner could be a comfortable place to read. We could move the boxes and put down two clean floor cushions. A small lamp could help on cloudy days, if our teacher says it is safe. With a soft place to sit and enough light, students could focus on their books instead of looking for a better seat.

3 Second, the reading spot could make books easier to find. We could keep a low shelf there and sort books into baskets. One basket could hold animal stories, and another could hold funny stories. Labels on the baskets would help us put books back where they belong. That way, the next reader could quickly choose a story and begin reading.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the first sentence introduce the topic?

2. What does the writer think the class should do?

3. What reason is grouped in the second paragraph? Name two details that support it.

4. What reason is grouped in the third paragraph? Name two details that support it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a change you would like to make to recess. Write one paragraph of 5 or 6 sentences that introduces the change and states your opinion. Keep details about one reason together before you give details about a second reason.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that introduces the topic and circle the sentence that states the writer's opinion. Write 1 and 2 beside the paragraphs that group different reasons. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the first sentence introduce the topic?	**It names a reading spot and tells where it could go in the classroom.**
2	What does the writer think the class should do?	**The writer thinks the class should turn the empty corner into a reading spot.**
3	What reason is grouped in the second paragraph? Name two details that support it.	**The corner could be comfortable for reading. The class could add floor cushions and a lamp.**
4	What reason is grouped in the third paragraph? Name two details that support it.	**Books could be easier to find. The class could sort them into baskets and label the baskets.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our playground needs a painted game path for recess. I think our school should add one. First, the path would give students a new way to move. They could follow its squares by hopping or taking giant steps. Second, the path would help groups play together. Friends could take turns leading a game and invite others to join.

For the marking job, accept the first sentence as the topic introduction and the third sentence as the opinion. In the open response, look for a clear topic and opinion, with details for each of two reasons kept together.