Paths Across Traffic

Read, mark, and summarize an informational text.

6.RI.2.c "Provide an objective summary of the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one sentence in each paragraph that helps explain its main point. Circle details you could leave out of a brief, fact-only summary.

Helping Wildlife Cross Roads

1. At night, a mule deer might reach a highway while moving between feeding and shelter areas. Cars make that crossing dangerous for animals and drivers. In some places, transportation crews build wildlife overpasses, wide bridges covered with soil and plants. The bridges give animals a path above traffic. Crews often place fences along the road so animals are guided toward a crossing instead of stepping onto the pavement. An overpass does not make every collision disappear, but it can help animals move across a busy road more safely.

2. Not every crossing goes over a road. Underpasses let animals travel beneath it through tunnels or large openings. The size and surroundings of a passage matter: an elk needs more room than a small mammal, and some animals avoid places that feel too exposed. Fences can guide animals toward an underpass as well as an overpass. They also block access to the road between crossings. If a fence has gaps or ends in the wrong place, animals may still wander into traffic.

3. To see whether crossings work, researchers use cameras and look for tracks near the entrances. These records show which animals use a passage and how often they pass through it. Researchers can also compare reports of animal-vehicle collisions from before and after crossings and fences are installed. Results depend on the location, the design, and how well the fences are maintained. Monitoring helps crews find problems, such as a damaged fence, and decide whether a crossing needs changes. The aim is safer travel for wildlife and people.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In one sentence, summarize the problem and solution introduced in paragraph 1.

2. Summarize how underpasses and fences work together in paragraph 2. Leave out examples of specific animals.

3. What is paragraph 3 mainly about? Include one detail that supports your answer.

4. Which sentence belongs in an objective summary? Explain your choice. A: "Wildlife crossings are a perfect fix for dangerous roads." B: "Wildlife crossings can help, but their results depend on design and maintenance."

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an objective summary of the whole passage in 3 or 4 sentences and 55 to 75 words. Include the main idea and key supporting points, but leave out opinions and minor details.

ANSWER KEY

Paths Across Traffic

GRADE 6 · 6.RI.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one sentence in each paragraph that helps explain its main point. Circle details you could leave out of a brief, fact-only summary. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In one sentence, summarize the problem and solution introduced in paragraph 1.	**Roads are dangerous for crossing animals and drivers, so crews build overpasses and fences to help animals cross more safely.**
2	Summarize how underpasses and fences work together in paragraph 2. Leave out examples of specific animals.	**Underpasses provide a route beneath the road, while fences guide animals toward the passage and keep them off the road between crossings.**
3	What is paragraph 3 mainly about? Include one detail that supports your answer.	**Researchers check whether crossings work. For example, they use cameras to record which animals use a passage.**
4	Which sentence belongs in an objective summary? Explain your choice. A: "Wildlife crossings are a perfect fix for dangerous roads." B: "Wildlife crossings can help, but their results depend on design and maintenance."	**B belongs in an objective summary because it reflects the passage without an unsupported claim. A calls the crossings a "perfect fix," although the passage says they do not prevent every collision.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Wildlife crossings help animals move across busy roads without entering traffic. Overpasses and underpasses offer different routes, while fences guide animals toward them and keep them off other parts of the road. Researchers check camera records, tracks, and collision reports to learn how well the crossings work. Their findings can help crews improve designs and repair fences.

Accept summaries that explain the purpose of crossings, how passages and fences work together, and how researchers check results. Responses should remain factual and meet the stated sentence and word limits.