Make Your Case

Read a model speech, then plan a proposal of your own.

6.SL.4 "Present claims and findings appropriate to the purpose and audience. Use pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes. Use appropriate vocabulary, eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the speaker's main claim, number two details that support it, and circle one delivery direction to show how the speaker builds and presents the proposal.

A Table for Games

1. Good afternoon, student council members. (Look up and make eye contact.) I propose a two-week trial of a board-game table during lunch. Some students finish eating before the bell, but they may not have a simple way to spend that time with others. A game table would offer a place to talk, take turns, and welcome someone new. Picture a student who usually sits alone asking, "Can I join?" A small game gives everyone at the table an easy first question: "Whose turn is it?"

2. To keep the trial manageable, we could use one table and two games, such as checkers and a card game. A standard game of checkers uses two players, so someone can join without gathering a large team. A student volunteer could set out the games and put them away before lunch ends. We would ask players to keep pieces on the table and invite others to join the next round. (Speak loudly enough for the back row.) That simple setup would make the trial easier to manage.

3. At the end of two weeks, we could ask players whether they met someone new and ask lunch staff whether cleanup was easy. Those answers would help the council decide whether to continue, change, or stop the table. (Pause, then look at different listeners.) This is a small request with a clear way to check its results. Please support the trial so students have another chance to connect during lunch. (Pronounce "trial" clearly and finish at a steady volume.)

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which sentence states the speaker's main claim? Why is this claim suited to the student council?

2. How does the student asking "Can I join?" help the council understand the speaker's main idea?

3. Name two details that make the trial manageable. Explain how each helps.

4. Choose two delivery directions in the speech. How would each help the speaker reach the council?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four- or five-sentence proposal for a different small change at school. Address the student council, state your claim, give two concrete supporting details, and add two directions in parentheses for eye contact, volume, or clear pronunciation.

ANSWER KEY

Make Your Case

GRADE 6 · 6.SL.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the speaker's main claim, number two details that support it, and circle one delivery direction to show how the speaker builds and presents the proposal. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which sentence states the speaker's main claim? Why is this claim suited to the student council?	**"I propose a two-week trial of a board-game table during lunch." It asks the council to support a specific school change.**
2	How does the student asking "Can I join?" help the council understand the speaker's main idea?	**The example shows how a game could help a student start talking with others.**
3	Name two details that make the trial manageable. Explain how each helps.	**Using one table keeps the setup small. Having a volunteer put away the games gives someone responsibility for cleanup.**
4	Choose two delivery directions in the speech. How would each help the speaker reach the council?	**Making eye contact helps the speaker connect with council members. Speaking loudly enough for the back row helps everyone hear the proposal.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Council members, please support a Friday lost-and-found reminder during the final announcement. (Look at the listeners.) The reminder could tell students where to check for missing jackets and lunch boxes before the weekend. A student could write the short message for the office to read. (Speak clearly so the back row hears.) Please ask the office to try it for one month.

Accept other relevant details and delivery directions supported by the passage. For Part 3, look for a distinct proposal, two details that support it, and two usable delivery directions.