One Street, Many Views

Read a city proposal through the experiences of people it affects.

9-10.RI.10.c "Read widely to understand diverse perspectives and viewpoints."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the passage, then underline one detail that matters to each person mentioned. Number two details that show how the same street closure could affect people differently.

A Market on the Block

1 On the first Saturday of each month, a city is considering closing one downtown block to cars for a street market. Tables would fill parking spaces, while buses and deliveries would use nearby streets. A bakery owner imagines customers lingering over lunch instead of rushing past traffic. She expects more sales, but she worries about where flour shipments would stop before the market opens. Across the block, a tenant who works nights fears music outside his window will disturb his sleep. Both live near the proposed market, yet the hours when they need quiet streets are not the same.

2 For a wheelchair user, removing moving cars could make the block easier to cross. But a path crowded with stalls might block the curb ramp she uses to reach the sidewalk. A bus rider has a different concern: if her usual stop moves two blocks away, the market could turn a short trip into a difficult walk. Meanwhile, a delivery driver welcomes a clear schedule for unloading, even if he must use a side street. Each person notices a different part of the route, so a promise of easier access may sound convincing to one person and incomplete to another.

3 The city's transportation planner proposes a trial day rather than a permanent closure. Staff could count pedestrians, check whether curb ramps stay open, and time bus trips on the detour. Those measurements could show what happens, but they would not by themselves reveal why a missed stop matters to someone with limited mobility or why a baker needs an early delivery. At a public meeting, people could describe those experiences alongside the counts. The decision would still require trade-offs: moving stalls might protect a ramp while reducing space for sellers, and an earlier closing time might limit both noise and sales.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the bakery owner and the tenant view the market differently? Explain what each needs from the street.

2. Why might the wheelchair user and the bus rider react differently to a promise of easier access?

3. Why does the planner's proposal include both measurements and people's accounts of their experiences?

4. If the city moves stalls away from a curb ramp, whose concerns would that address, and whose opportunities might it reduce?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 4- or 5-sentence statement to the council from the viewpoint of a parent walking with a small child. Use two specific details from the passage that affect different people, explain how they shape your view, and ask one question the city should investigate before deciding.

ANSWER KEY

One Street, Many Views

HIGH SCHOOL · 9-10.RI.10.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the passage, then underline one detail that matters to each person mentioned. Number two details that show how the same street closure could affect people differently. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the bakery owner and the tenant view the market differently? Explain what each needs from the street.	**The bakery owner hopes the market brings customers but needs a place for early flour deliveries. The tenant works nights and needs quiet while he sleeps.**
2	Why might the wheelchair user and the bus rider react differently to a promise of easier access?	**The wheelchair user might benefit from fewer moving cars but could face a blocked curb ramp. The bus rider might have to walk two extra blocks to a relocated stop.**
3	Why does the planner's proposal include both measurements and people's accounts of their experiences?	**Measurements could show pedestrian counts, ramp access, and bus travel times. People's accounts could explain why those changes matter in their daily lives.**
4	If the city moves stalls away from a curb ramp, whose concerns would that address, and whose opportunities might it reduce?	**Moving the stalls would address the wheelchair user's need for an open ramp, but it could leave sellers with less space.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

As a parent walking with a small child, I would welcome a block without moving cars, but I would need room to walk safely. The wheelchair user's need for an open curb ramp makes me wonder whether crowded stalls would also leave space for families to pass. The bakery owner needs early flour deliveries, so I would not want the market to prevent workers from reaching their shops. Before deciding, can the city test whether a clear walking lane and a timed delivery window would meet both needs?

Accept other passage-supported comparisons that accurately distinguish each person's circumstances. For Part 3, look for a parent's viewpoint, two details tied to different people, an explanation of their relevance, and an investigable question.