Beyond the Roof

Trace how details develop an idea about shade at bus stops.

9-10.RI.2 "Determine a central idea of a text. Analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it is introduced, built, and refined by specific details. Provide an objective summary of the text to support analysis."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one sentence in each paragraph that shows what a useful bus stop must provide. Number the sentences 1, 2, and 3 to track how the idea develops.

Where the Shade Falls

1. On a hot afternoon, a bus rider may stand beside a shelter but still feel the sun on their arms. A roof blocks light from above, while late-day sunlight can enter through an open side. The difference matters because people waiting for a bus cannot always choose when to arrive or where to stand. Shade reduces direct sunlight, which can make a wait more comfortable even when the air temperature stays high. A shelter, then, is not simply a roof over a bench. Its value depends on where its shadow falls during the hours riders actually wait.

2. To see that problem, consider a stop beside a wide road in the late afternoon. A narrow roof may shade the bench at noon yet leave a standing rider exposed when the sun drops lower. A nearby tree might cast a longer shadow, but its leaves may not cover the same spot throughout the year. Designers can study the sun's path and observe where people stand before placing a shelter. Side panels can block low-angle sunlight, provided they do not obstruct the view of approaching buses. These details shift the question from whether a stop has shade to whether riders can use it.

3. Even a well-placed shadow does not solve every part of a hot wait. Heat can rise from sunlit pavement, and a roof does little to cool the surrounding air. People using wheelchairs also need enough clear space to reach a shaded area, not just a shaded bench. Trees, where space and maintenance allow, can cool nearby surfaces as well as provide shade. Reliable service can shorten waits, while access to drinking water can help riders manage heat. The strongest response treats shade as one part of a usable stop, measured by the experience of different riders rather than by the shelter's presence alone.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What central idea about bus shelters is introduced in paragraph 1? Name one detail that introduces it.

2. How does the roof-at-noon example in paragraph 2 develop the idea introduced in paragraph 1?

3. How does paragraph 3 refine the idea beyond the placement of shade? Use two details.

4. Write a two-sentence objective summary showing how the passage's central idea develops from paragraph 1 to paragraph 3.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine an editor removes paragraph 3. Write a headline of 5 to 8 words for the shorter passage. Then write 3 to 4 sentences explaining how that cut would change its central idea, using one detail from paragraph 2 and one from paragraph 3.

Beyond the Roof

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one sentence in each paragraph that shows what a useful bus stop must provide. Number the sentences 1, 2, and 3 to track how the idea develops. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What central idea about bus shelters is introduced in paragraph 1? Name one detail that introduces it.	**A shelter is useful only when its shade reaches riders during their wait. Late-day sunlight can enter through an open side even when the shelter has a roof.**
2	How does the roof-at-noon example in paragraph 2 develop the idea introduced in paragraph 1?	**It shows that having shade at one time is not enough: a roof can shade the bench at noon but leave a standing rider exposed later. Designers must consider when and where riders wait.**
3	How does paragraph 3 refine the idea beyond the placement of shade? Use two details.	**It shows that a usable stop must address more than the location of its shadow. Sunlit pavement adds heat, and wheelchair users need clear access to the shaded area.**
4	Write a two-sentence objective summary showing how the passage's central idea develops from paragraph 1 to paragraph 3.	**A bus shelter's shade helps riders only if it reaches them during the hours they wait, so its placement must account for changing sunlight. The passage then explains that pavement heat and access for different riders also affect whether a stop is usable.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Why a Roof Is Not Enough

Without paragraph 3, the passage would focus on placing shade where riders can actually stand. Paragraph 2 shows that a roof shading a bench at noon may miss riders later in the day, so timing and position matter. Removing paragraph 3 would leave out clear wheelchair access and heat from pavement, narrowing the idea from a usable stop for different riders to a well-placed shadow.

Accept other central-idea statements that distinguish usable shade from the mere presence of a shelter. For Part 3, the six-word sample headline fits the shorter passage; explanations should identify a specific idea lost when paragraph 3 is removed.