

Plan Before You Write

See how a writer chooses a genre and organizes ideas before drafting.

3.11.A “plan a first draft by selecting a genre for a particular topic, purpose, and audience using a range of strategies such as brainstorming, freewriting, and mapping;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline Jordan's topic, circle his audience and purpose, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside the planning strategies he uses. Your marks will show how Jordan prepares for a first draft.

Jordan Plans a Poster

- ① Jordan wants students at Cedar Grove School to keep the playground clean. He chooses to write a short poster for younger students, not a long report for adults. His purpose is to tell children what to do at recess. Before drafting, Jordan brainstorms. He writes: use bins, pick up wrappers, recycle bottles, and ask a friend to help.
- ② Next, Jordan freewrites for three minutes without stopping. He writes quick thoughts about a clean playground and adds a reminder to put trash in a bin. Then he reads his notes. Because a poster needs few words and a clear message, he keeps the best ideas. He plans a bold title, three short action lines, and a drawing of a trash bin.
- ③ To organize the poster, Jordan makes a map. In the center, he writes “Clean Playground.” Three lines lead to “Use a bin,” “Recycle bottles,” and “Pick up litter.” The map helps him place his ideas in order before he writes a first draft. Jordan chose the genre, purpose, and audience first, so his plan fits the job.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What topic does Jordan plan to write about?

2 Which genre does Jordan choose, and who is his audience?

3 What is Jordan's purpose for writing the poster?

4 Name the three planning strategies Jordan uses before drafting.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Plan a first draft about helping people save water at school. Your audience is your classmates, and your purpose is to teach them what to do. Choose a genre, then use brainstorming, freewriting, or a map to plan it.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline Jordan's topic, circle his audience and purpose, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside the planning strategies he uses. Your marks will show how Jordan prepares for a first draft. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What topic does Jordan plan to write about?	Keeping the playground clean.
2	Which genre does Jordan choose, and who is his audience?	He chooses a short poster for younger students.
3	What is Jordan's purpose for writing the poster?	To tell children what to do at recess.
4	Name the three planning strategies Jordan uses before drafting.	Brainstorming, freewriting, and mapping.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Genre: poster for classmates. Purpose: teach classmates how to save water at school. My map has "Save Water" in the center, with "turn off faucets," "use only the water you need," and "tell an adult about a leak" on three lines.

Accept any genre that fits the topic, purpose, and audience. The student's plan should name a planning strategy and include relevant ideas for the chosen genre.