

Claim Clues

Find the sentence that states the writer's position.

4.9.E.i "identifying the claim;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that states the author's main claim. Circle the sentence that states the same claim again at the end.

A Cooler Playground

- ① Some students want a longer recess, but our school should first add shaded benches to the playground. On hot days, many children stand near the building because the play area has little shade. A few benches under shade trees or canopies would give students a cool place to rest, talk, or read quietly during recess.
- ② Shaded benches would help more than students who feel hot. Students who need a quiet break could sit outdoors with classmates instead of waiting inside. The benches could also be used during class projects, such as sketching plants or reading a short book. Because the seating would serve recess and class time, it would be a useful choice for our school.
- ③ Buying benches costs money, and the school may have other needs. Still, families, the student council, and local businesses could help raise funds or donate materials. The school could begin with just one shaded bench and see how often it is used. Adding shaded benches is a practical way to make the playground more comfortable and welcoming.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the author's main claim?

2 What action does the author want the school to take first?

3 Which sentence at the end restates the author's main claim?

4 Is the sentence "Buying benches costs money, and the school may have other needs" the claim the author supports? Explain.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one school improvement you think would help students. Write three sentences: one clear claim and two reasons that support it. Underline your claim.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that states the author's main claim. Circle the sentence that states the same claim again at the end. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the author's main claim?	The school should add shaded benches to the playground.
2	What action does the author want the school to take first?	Add shaded benches to the playground.
3	Which sentence at the end restates the author's main claim?	Adding shaded benches is a practical way to make the playground more comfortable and welcoming.
4	Is the sentence "Buying benches costs money, and the school may have other needs" the claim the author supports? Explain.	No. It is a concern about the idea, not the author's supported claim.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water bottle filling station near the gym. It would give students an easy place to refill bottles after exercise. It could also reduce the number of disposable plastic bottles students use.

Accept reasonable rewordings of the main claim that say the school should add shaded benches. For Part 3, accept a clear opinion or requested action as the claim if the other two sentences give relevant support.