

Audience Clues

Trace the readers an argument is meant to reach.

6.8.E.iii "identifying the intended audience or reader; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or phrases that show the writer is speaking to the Parks and Recreation Board. Circle details the writer chose because this audience can make decisions about money, plans, or park work.

A Request for Maple Trail

- ① Dear members of the Parks and Recreation Board, our town should add a shaded water station at the east end of Maple Trail. On hot afternoons, walkers, runners, and families use this section, but the nearest fountain is almost a mile away. A station with a bottle-filling spout would help people refill safely and would reduce single-use plastic bottles. Because the board plans trail improvements, this small project deserves a place on the list of projects in this year's budget.
- ② Board members need a plan that uses public money wisely. A basic outdoor water station costs less than building a new shelter, and it can be placed beside the existing trail entrance. Staff could inspect it during regular park checks, so the station would not require a separate daily trip. Please ask the town engineer to estimate installation costs and include the station in the next improvement proposal. This request gives the board a practical choice, not a vague wish.
- ③ Some residents may prefer more benches or new signs. Those ideas could help, yet a water station meets a basic need for many kinds of trail users. The board can compare its cost with other small improvements before voting. If the project is approved, a sign could name the town department that provided it. That detail would show residents how their tax-supported park funds were used and would make the board's decision easy to understand.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Who is the main intended audience for this argument?

2 Write two words or phrases that show the writer is addressing this audience.

3 Why does the writer explain the station's cost and staff inspections in paragraph 2?

4 How does the phrase "before voting" help identify the intended audience?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one improvement for your school or community. Write exactly three sentences to a specific decision-making audience, naming the audience in your first sentence and including two details that would matter to that audience.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words or phrases that show the writer is speaking to the Parks and Recreation Board. Circle details the writer chose because this audience can make decisions about money, plans, or park work. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the main intended audience for this argument?	The members of the Parks and Recreation Board.
2	Write two words or phrases that show the writer is addressing this audience.	Answers may include "public money," "town engineer," "installation costs," "improvement proposal," "before voting," or "approved."
3	Why does the writer explain the station's cost and staff inspections in paragraph 2?	The board needs to consider how public money will be spent and whether the station can be maintained.
4	How does the phrase "before voting" help identify the intended audience?	It shows that the audience has the power to vote on or approve park improvements.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The school principal should approve a covered bike rack near the front entrance. It would keep students' bikes dry and organized, and the maintenance team could check it while opening the building. Because the rack is smaller than a new storage room, it offers a practical use of school funds.

Accept equivalent evidence that identifies the Parks and Recreation Board as the primary audience. For Part 3, accept any clear decision-making audience, a fitting claim, and two audience-focused details in exactly three sentences.