

Shade on the Map

Use important details to identify key ideas in an informational text.

8.5.G "evaluate details read to determine key ideas;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that best supports its key idea. In the margin, write a 4- to 6-word key idea for each paragraph.

Where Should Cities Plant Trees?

- ① On a summer afternoon, a sidewalk beside a parking lot can become much hotter than a nearby shaded path. Dark pavement absorbs sunlight and releases stored heat slowly, so neighborhoods with few trees often remain warm after sunset. Trees change these conditions in two ways. Their leaves block solar radiation, and water moving through leaves cools the air as it evaporates. For this reason, city planners study tree cover when they prepare for dangerous heat, especially in places where many people walk or wait for buses.
- ② Yet planting any tree in any location does not solve every heat problem. A young tree provides little shade at first, and some species need years before their canopies spread. Trees also need soil, water, and care, which can be difficult along narrow streets or in dry climates. In a dense neighborhood, a small park may offer relief to visitors without cooling homes several blocks away. Planners therefore compare temperatures, tree cover, and residents' needs before deciding where limited planting money can do the most good.
- ③ Some cities now use heat maps to identify blocks where pavement, scarce shade, and high temperatures overlap. They may give priority to schools, apartment areas, or transit stops because people spend time there outdoors. Residents can add local knowledge, such as which bus stop has no shelter or which newly planted trees are not surviving. Still, maps are only one tool. A useful tree plan combines temperature data with community input and long-term maintenance, aiming not simply to increase the number of trees but to reduce heat risks where they are greatest.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** What key idea does the first paragraph develop about trees and city heat? Use two details from the paragraph in your answer.

- 2** Which two details from paragraph 2 best support the idea that planting trees requires careful planning? Explain how each detail supports that idea.

- 3** How does paragraph 3 add to the ideas in the first two paragraphs?

- 4** What is the overall key idea of the passage? Write one sentence that combines ideas from all three paragraphs.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

A town can afford to plant and maintain trees in only one area. Write two sentences recommending where the town should focus, using at least two details from the passage to explain your choice.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that best supports its key idea. In the margin, write a 4- to 6-word key idea for each paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What key idea does the first paragraph develop about trees and city heat? Use two details from the paragraph in your answer.	Trees can help reduce city heat because leaves provide shade and evaporating water from leaves cools the air.
2	Which two details from paragraph 2 best support the idea that planting trees requires careful planning? Explain how each detail supports that idea.	A young tree gives little shade at first, so benefits may take time. Trees also need soil, water, and care, so some locations are difficult to use and maintain.
3	How does paragraph 3 add to the ideas in the first two paragraphs?	It explains how cities can choose high-priority locations by using heat maps, residents' knowledge, and long-term maintenance plans.
4	What is the overall key idea of the passage? Write one sentence that combines ideas from all three paragraphs.	Cities can reduce heat risks with trees, but they should use data, community needs, and maintenance plans to place and care for trees where they will help most.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Riverton should plant and maintain trees near uncovered transit stops and apartment blocks identified by heat maps. These places serve people outdoors, and maintenance matters because young trees provide little shade and some newly planted trees may not survive.

Accept key ideas that accurately connect important details rather than merely listing facts. For the open task, accept any reasonable location if the student uses at least two accurate passage details to support the recommendation.