Shade Decisions

Use details from a source to build and defend a response.

8.6.C "use text evidence to support an appropriate response;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that could support a response about which heat-reduction choices meet bus riders' needs. Circle words or phrases that show a limit, delay, or trade-off.

Cooling a City Block

1 On summer afternoons, city blocks can be much hotter than nearby parks. Dark roofs, asphalt, and brick absorb sunlight and release heat slowly after sunset. This effect, called an urban heat island, can make air-conditioning bills rise and can be dangerous for people working or waiting outside. In one neighborhood, residents asked the city to reduce heat near a bus stop, where riders had little shade. Planners considered planting trees, adding a shade canopy, and coating a nearby roof with a light-colored material.

2 Each option offered a different benefit. Trees cool people directly by blocking sunlight, and their leaves release water vapor, which can cool surrounding air. However, young trees need regular watering and may take years to provide wide shade. A canopy could protect bus riders as soon as it was installed, but it would not lower temperatures across the whole block. Light-colored roofs reflect more sunlight than dark roofs, helping buildings absorb less heat. Yet a roof project would do little for people standing at the bus stop.

3 The city began with a canopy because riders needed immediate relief during the hottest months. It also planted twelve native trees along the street, placing them far enough from the curb to allow roots to grow. The roof coating was postponed because the building owner had not yet agreed to share the cost. After one year, riders reported using the bus stop more often at midday, although the trees were still too small to shade the waiting area. The project showed why planners sometimes combine a quick solution with a longer-term one.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why was the canopy an appropriate first choice for the city? Support your response with two details from the passage.

2. A reader claims that coating the roof should have been the first priority because it would directly help people at the bus stop. Does the passage support this claim? Use evidence in your response.

3. Which plan best addressed both the riders' immediate need and the neighborhood's longer-term need? Explain using evidence from the passage.

4. What conclusion can you draw from the results after one year? Support your conclusion with two details from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A council member proposes removing the canopy next year because the trees will eventually grow. Write a three-sentence response that states your recommendation and supports it with at least two different details from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Shade Decisions

GRADE 8 · TEKS 8.6.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that could support a response about which heat-reduction choices meet bus riders' needs. Circle words or phrases that show a limit, delay, or trade-off. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why was the canopy an appropriate first choice for the city? Support your response with two details from the passage.	**The canopy was appropriate because riders needed immediate relief during hot months, and a canopy could protect riders as soon as it was installed. Trees could take years to provide wide shade.**
2	A reader claims that coating the roof should have been the first priority because it would directly help people at the bus stop. Does the passage support this claim? Use evidence in your response.	**No. A light-colored roof helps buildings absorb less heat, but the passage states that a roof project would do little for people standing at the bus stop.**
3	Which plan best addressed both the riders' immediate need and the neighborhood's longer-term need? Explain using evidence from the passage.	**Using both a canopy and trees best addressed both needs. The canopy provided immediate protection for riders, while trees can cool people and surrounding air after they grow large enough.**
4	What conclusion can you draw from the results after one year? Support your conclusion with two details from the passage.	**The canopy likely made the stop more useful right away, while the trees were still a future benefit. Riders reported using the stop more often at midday, but the trees were still too small to shade the waiting area.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I recommend keeping the canopy next year. The passage says young trees may take years to provide wide shade, and after one year the trees were still too small to shade the waiting area. Removing the canopy would take away immediate protection before the trees can serve riders.

Accept responses that make a clear recommendation or conclusion and support it with accurate, relevant details from the passage. Students may use different evidence if it logically supports their response.