From Facts Forward

Trace how a conclusion grows from an explanation.

10.W.1.A.iv "Write extended pieces that: Provide a concluding section that follows from the information or explanation presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each sentence in the final paragraph that connects to an earlier idea. Circle the words or phrases that show the writer is drawing the explanation to a close.

Trees as City Infrastructure

1 On a hot afternoon, a city block can hold far more heat than a nearby park. Asphalt and dark roofs absorb sunlight, then release warmth slowly after sunset. Trees change this pattern in two ways. Their leaves shade pavement and walls, while water moving from leaves into the air helps cool the area. This collection of leaves, branches, and trunks is called an urban tree canopy. Because heat can worsen health risks and raise air-conditioning use, many cities study where their canopy is thin or absent altogether in the hottest places.

2 Canopy is not distributed evenly. In many U.S. cities, lower-income neighborhoods and communities of color have fewer trees than wealthier areas, partly because past planning decisions shaped streets and investment. Planting trees can help, but a sapling does not provide the shade of a mature tree. Young trees need watering, protection from damage, and years of growth. Cities also must select species that can survive local heat, drought, pests, and limited soil. A plan that counts only trees planted may overlook whether those trees live long enough to cool residents' streets.

3 Taken together, these facts show that urban tree programs are more than a beautification project. They are a long-term response to dangerous heat, especially where shade is scarce. To make that response fair and effective, city leaders should protect existing mature trees and direct care toward neighborhoods with the least canopy. Measuring survival and shade over time would reveal whether planting efforts actually improve daily conditions. When a city treats trees as living infrastructure rather than decorations, it can make cooler streets a practical goal for more residents.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What two conditions from the explanation are brought together in the second sentence of the conclusion?

2. Which details from paragraph 2 support the conclusion's recommendation to protect mature trees and direct care toward neighborhoods with the least canopy?

3. What does the conclusion say cities should measure over time, and why?

4. How does the final sentence move beyond simply saying that cities should plant trees?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence concluding section for an explanation about repairing old school buildings. Your conclusion must synthesize these facts, state a reasonable next step or implication, and introduce no new factual claims: inspections find leaks early, repairing leaks prevents water damage, and planned maintenance costs less than emergency repairs.

From Facts Forward

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each sentence in the final paragraph that connects to an earlier idea. Circle the words or phrases that show the writer is drawing the explanation to a close. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two conditions from the explanation are brought together in the second sentence of the conclusion?	**Dangerous heat and places where shade is scarce.**
2	Which details from paragraph 2 support the conclusion's recommendation to protect mature trees and direct care toward neighborhoods with the least canopy?	**Mature trees provide more shade than saplings, young trees need care to survive, and lower-income neighborhoods and communities of color often have fewer trees.**
3	What does the conclusion say cities should measure over time, and why?	**Cities should measure tree survival and shade to find out whether planting efforts improve daily conditions.**
4	How does the final sentence move beyond simply saying that cities should plant trees?	**It presents trees as living infrastructure and connects tree care to the broader goal of creating cooler streets for more residents.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Together, these findings show that regular inspections are a practical way to protect an older school building. Finding and repairing leaks early can prevent water damage and reduce the need for costly emergency repairs. Therefore, a planned maintenance schedule can help schools use repair funds more wisely over time.

Accept answers that identify how the final paragraph synthesizes earlier information and draws a supported implication or recommendation. For the open response, accept any three-sentence conclusion that uses all three provided facts, includes a logical closing idea, and adds no unsupported facts.