Evidence Across Sources

Combine findings, experiences, and limits to form a defensible position.

12.C.3.C "Synthesize multiple streams of information on the same or similar topic to create a summary or formulate a position."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each source's main finding, circle a limitation or caution connected to that source, and number 1, 2, or 3 beside the evidence from each source. These marks will help you combine the sources without treating one source as complete proof.

Should Phoenix Expand Reflective Pavement?

1. During a July heat wave, the city of Phoenix tested a light-colored coating on two blocks of Roosevelt Street. A municipal engineering report recorded surface temperatures before and after installation. At 2 p.m., the coated pavement was 12 degrees Fahrenheit cooler than nearby uncoated pavement. The report did not measure air temperature inside homes or changes across an entire neighborhood. Its narrow result supports one claim: reflective pavement can reduce the heat absorbed by a street surface. It cannot, by itself, prove that the project improves public health or lowers citywide temperatures.

2. A separate survey, conducted by a university team after the test, collected responses from 186 people who walked or lived near the blocks. Sixty-two percent said the coated block felt more comfortable during afternoon trips. Several interviewees also reported glare, especially while driving west near sunset. Because the survey records perceptions rather than measurements, it adds evidence about daily experience, not physical temperature. The survey strengthens the idea that the coating may help pedestrians, while also identifying a possible drawback that engineers should address before expanding the project.

3. Finally, a public-health department examined emergency-room visits during the same summer. Visits for heat illness declined citywide after several cooling efforts began, including shaded bus stops, extended pool hours, and public alerts. The department did not isolate the pavement project, so the decline cannot be credited to reflective coating. Taken together, the three sources justify a cautious position: Phoenix should continue a larger, monitored trial. Engineers can test glare and air effects, residents can report comfort, and health officials can track outcomes before the city spends money on widespread installation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What conclusion does the engineering report support, and what does it not establish?

2. How does the university survey add a different kind of information than the engineering report?

3. Why can the decline in heat-related emergency visits not be credited to reflective pavement alone?

4. What cautious position is best supported when all three sources are considered? Use evidence from at least two sources.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an 80- to 110-word recommendation to a neighboring city's council about whether it should use reflective pavement. State a clear position, use evidence from at least two sources, and explain one limitation that the council should consider.

ANSWER KEY

Evidence Across Sources

GRADE 12 · 12.C.3.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each source's main finding, circle a limitation or caution connected to that source, and number 1, 2, or 3 beside the evidence from each source. These marks will help you combine the sources without treating one source as complete proof. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What conclusion does the engineering report support, and what does it not establish?	**It supports the conclusion that reflective pavement can reduce heat absorbed by a street surface. It does not establish improved public health or lower citywide temperatures.**
2	How does the university survey add a different kind of information than the engineering report?	**The survey provides residents' and pedestrians' perceptions of comfort and glare. The engineering report provides measured pavement-surface temperatures.**
3	Why can the decline in heat-related emergency visits not be credited to reflective pavement alone?	**Other cooling efforts, including shaded bus stops, extended pool hours, and public alerts, began during the same period. The health department did not isolate the pavement project's effect.**
4	What cautious position is best supported when all three sources are considered? Use evidence from at least two sources.	**Phoenix should continue a larger, monitored trial before widespread installation. The pavement was cooler and many people felt more comfortable, but glare was reported and the health data cannot show that pavement caused fewer heat illnesses.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

To the City Council: Our city should run a limited reflective-pavement pilot rather than install it everywhere. Phoenix's engineering report found that coated pavement was 12 degrees cooler, and its survey suggests that many nearby people felt more comfortable. However, the survey also identified glare, and the health data did not isolate pavement from other cooling efforts. A pilot should measure air temperature, collect resident feedback, and test glare at sunset. The city can use those results to decide whether a wider investment is worthwhile.

Accept equivalent syntheses that distinguish measured evidence, reported experiences, and the limits of the health data. For the open response, accept a different position if it uses at least two sources accurately and addresses a relevant limitation.