

Evidence Into Action

Analyze how authoritative sources sustain a focused public-policy argument.

12.W.1.A.iii "Write extended pieces that: Develop the topic through sustained use of the most significant and relevant facts, concrete details, quotations, or other information from multiple authoritative sources appropriate to the audience's knowledge."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline facts, concrete details, and source-attributed claims that directly support the city heat plan. Write 1, 2, or 3 beside evidence from the EPA, CDC, and NOAA to track how multiple authorities build the argument.

A City Plan for Extreme Heat

- ① City heat should be treated as an infrastructure problem, not simply as a summer inconvenience. The Environmental Protection Agency explains that pavement and dark roofs absorb sunlight and release heat slowly, creating urban heat islands. In a dense neighborhood, that stored heat can keep bedrooms warm after sunset, when people need recovery. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that heat can worsen existing conditions and can lead to heatstroke. These facts matter because risk is shaped by where people live, work, wait for buses, and sleep, not only by a daily temperature reading.
- ② The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration notes that heat is a leading weather-related cause of death in the United States. That broad warning supports local action, but it does not identify who lacks relief. CDC guidance provides a more useful detail: older adults, infants and children, people with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers may face greater risk. A city plan should therefore map cooling centers near transit, extend evening hours during heat alerts, and send information through employers, libraries, and clinics. Each step connects a documented risk to a reachable place or audience.
- ③ Some solutions lower exposure before an emergency begins. EPA describes trees and vegetation as strategies that can cool surrounding areas through shade and evapotranspiration. Planting trees along routes to schools, bus stops, and public housing could reduce the heat people encounter daily. Still, trees take time to mature and need water and maintenance. For immediate protection, the CDC recommends seeking air-conditioned spaces during extreme heat. Cities should pair long-term shade investments with reliable cooling centers, transportation access, and clear alerts. Using several authorities makes this proposal more credible because each source supplies evidence for a different part of the plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which EPA fact explains why a dense neighborhood may stay hot after sunset? Explain how that fact supports the argument for city action.

2 Which CDC information makes the heat plan more targeted than a general warning? Name two groups from the passage and one action connected to that information.

3 Why does the writer use the NOAA statement together with CDC guidance instead of using the NOAA statement alone?

4 What limitation does the writer acknowledge about planting trees? How does the writer use CDC evidence to address that limitation?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Using only the EPA, CDC, and NOAA information in the passage, write a three-paragraph, 250 to 300 word proposal to a city council about reducing extreme-heat risks. Name or cite all three authorities, use specific relevant evidence from each, and explain how the city should balance immediate protection with a long-term solution.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline facts, concrete details, and source-attributed claims that directly support the city heat plan. Write 1, 2, or 3 beside evidence from the EPA, CDC, and NOAA to track how multiple authorities build the argument. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which EPA fact explains why a dense neighborhood may stay hot after sunset? Explain how that fact supports the argument for city action.	Pavement and dark roofs absorb sunlight and release heat slowly. This supports city action because built surfaces can keep neighborhoods hot when residents need relief at night.
2	Which CDC information makes the heat plan more targeted than a general warning? Name two groups from the passage and one action connected to that information.	CDC identifies groups at greater risk, including older adults, infants and children, people with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers. The plan responds with cooling centers near transit, extended evening hours, and information through employers, libraries, and clinics.
3	Why does the writer use the NOAA statement together with CDC guidance instead of using the NOAA statement alone?	NOAA establishes that heat is a serious national danger, but it does not identify who lacks relief. CDC guidance identifies people at greater risk and helps the writer propose specific local actions.
4	What limitation does the writer acknowledge about planting trees? How does the writer use CDC evidence to address that limitation?	Trees take time to mature and require water and maintenance, so they cannot provide immediate protection. CDC evidence supports using air-conditioned cooling centers during extreme heat.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

City officials should treat extreme heat as an infrastructure and health problem. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration identifies heat as a leading weather-related cause of death in the United States, so a plan cannot wait until individual residents seek help. The Environmental Protection Agency explains that pavement and dark roofs absorb sunlight and release heat slowly. That evidence shows why dense neighborhoods may remain dangerously warm after sunset. The city should use heat alerts to focus resources where built surfaces and limited indoor cooling make recovery difficult. Immediate protection must reach people who face the greatest exposure. CDC guidance names older adults, infants and children, people with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers as groups at greater risk. During heat alerts, the city should keep cooling centers open into the evening, place them near transit, and publish their hours through libraries, clinics, and employers. This is more precise than a general warning because it connects documented health risks with places and institutions that residents can actually use. Transportation access is especially important for people who cannot safely walk long distances in high temperatures. Long-term investments should reduce heat before an emergency occurs. The EPA states that trees and vegetation can cool nearby areas through shade and evapotranspiration. The city should plant and maintain trees beside bus stops, routes to schools, and public housing, where daily travel can expose residents to direct sun. Trees will not solve an immediate heat wave because they need time to mature and require water and maintenance. For that reason, the city should combine shade projects with dependable cooling centers and clear alerts. This paired approach uses NOAA's warning, CDC's health guidance, and EPA's environmental evidence to build a practical plan.

Accept equivalent paraphrases when students accurately connect source evidence to the writer's claims or recommendations. For the extended response, look for three developed paragraphs, accurate use of all three named authorities, relevant concrete details, and an explanation of both immediate and long-term actions.