Make a Case

Read a model opinion piece, then find the facts, details, and reasons that support it.

4.W.1.D "Write persuasive pieces on topics or texts that express a clear opinion supported by facts, details, and reasons."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's opinion. Circle each fact or detail that supports the opinion, and number the reasons 1, 2, and 3.

A Better Place to Refill

1. Our school should add a water bottle filling station near the gym. Many students finish recess or PE feeling thirsty, and the closest fountain is down the hall. A filling station would let students refill reusable bottles quickly. Drinking water helps the body control its temperature, which matters when children are active. Easy access to water could help students return to class ready to learn.

2. It would also cut down on trash. A typical single-use plastic bottle can take hundreds of years to break down. When students refill bottles, fewer empty bottles go into school trash cans. The station can also show how many plastic bottles its use has saved. Seeing that number grow would remind students that small choices can protect land and water each day.

3. Some people may worry that a filling station costs money to install. However, our school should add one near the gym because students need water after active classes. It would make refilling reusable bottles easier and could reduce the number of single-use bottles in trash cans. A station display could also help students see how their choices protect land and water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's opinion?

2. What detail supports the reason that students need easier access to water?

3. What fact does the writer use to support the idea that refilling bottles can reduce trash?

4. How does the writer answer the worry that a filling station costs money?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence note to the principal using information from the passage. State your opinion about adding the filling station, then support it with two facts, details, or reasons from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Make a Case

GRADE 4 · 4.W.1.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's opinion. Circle each fact or detail that supports the opinion, and number the reasons 1, 2, and 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's opinion?	**The school should add a water bottle filling station near the gym.**
2	What detail supports the reason that students need easier access to water?	**Many students finish recess or PE thirsty, and the closest fountain is down the hall.**
3	What fact does the writer use to support the idea that refilling bottles can reduce trash?	**A typical single-use plastic bottle can take hundreds of years to break down.**
4	How does the writer answer the worry that a filling station costs money?	**The writer says it is worth adding because students need water after active classes, it makes refilling reusable bottles easier, and it could reduce trash.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water bottle filling station near the gym. Students often need water after recess or PE, and the closest fountain is down the hall. The station would make it easy to refill reusable bottles, so fewer empty bottles could go into trash cans.

Accept responses that state a clear opinion about adding the filling station and include two accurate supporting details from the passage. The support may be facts, examples, or reasons, as long as it connects to the opinion.