

Grow a Better School

Study how a model groups a claim, reasons, and facts.

5.W.1.C "Write persuasive pieces on topics or texts, including media messages, supporting a clear perspective with adequate facts, reasons, and logically grouped information."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's claim. Circle facts or details that support it, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the three reasons in order to see how the ideas are grouped.

A Garden for Our Grounds

- ① Our school should plant a native garden beside the playground. Native plants are plants that grow naturally in our area. First, this garden could save water. Because native plants are suited to local rainfall and soil, they often need less watering after they are established than plants brought from other regions. That can help the school use water wisely.
- ② Second, native flowers can help local insects. Bees and butterflies use flowers for nectar and pollen. A garden with several kinds of native flowers can offer food during different parts of the growing season. In turn, insects may help pollinate nearby flowering plants. This reason shows that a small garden can support living things on our school grounds.
- ③ Third, the garden would give students a place to learn outdoors. Science classes could observe how plant leaves, insects, and soil change over time. Students could also make signs that name the plants and explain their roles. Since the garden saves water, supports insects, and builds learning, our school should choose a sunny space and begin planning it this year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the writer's clear perspective, or claim?

2 What is the first reason for planting the garden? Give one fact or detail that supports that reason.

3 What reason is explained in the second paragraph? How do the facts in that paragraph support it?

4 How does the last sentence logically connect the three reasons to the writer's call to action?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write three short paragraphs convincing your principal to make one different improvement at school. State a clear claim, give one grouped reason in each paragraph, and include an accurate fact or specific detail to support each reason.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's claim. Circle facts or details that support it, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the three reasons in order to see how the ideas are grouped. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's clear perspective, or claim?	The school should plant a native garden beside the playground.
2	What is the first reason for planting the garden? Give one fact or detail that supports that reason.	The first reason is that the garden could save water. Native plants are suited to local rainfall and soil and often need less watering after they are established.
3	What reason is explained in the second paragraph? How do the facts in that paragraph support it?	The reason is that native flowers can help local insects. Bees and butterflies use flowers for nectar and pollen, and several kinds of flowers can offer food during different parts of the growing season.
4	How does the last sentence logically connect the three reasons to the writer's call to action?	It names the three benefits, saving water, supporting insects, and building learning, before asking the school to choose a sunny space and begin planning.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should install a covered bike rack near the main entrance. First, a roof over the rack would keep rain off bicycle seats. Dry seats would make it easier for students to ride home after a wet morning. Second, a covered rack can help protect bikes. Water can cause metal parts, such as chains, to rust over time. Keeping bicycles under a roof can reduce how much rain reaches those parts. Third, a visible rack would give riders one clear place to park and lock bicycles. Bicycling is a form of physical activity, so a safe parking spot can support students who choose to ride. For these reasons, our school should add the rack.

Accept equivalent statements of the claim, reasons, and supporting details when they match the passage. For the writing task, accept varied school improvements if the response has a clear perspective, three logically grouped reasons, and accurate supporting facts or details.