Make It Convincing

Study how a persuasive paragraph model is built.

5.W.2 "Organization and Composition Engage in writing as a process to compose well-developed paragraphs. This includes: Introducing a clear topic sentence and logically organizing ideas and factual evidence to support the position in persuasive..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the topic sentence, circle the transition words or phrases, and draw a box around the concluding statement. These choices show how the writer organizes a persuasive argument.

A Place to Read Outside

1. Our school should create a shaded outdoor reading area beside the library. During warm months, the blacktop near the playground can become too hot for students who want to read outside. A small space with benches, a canopy, and a book box would give classes a calm place to enjoy books. It would also make outdoor learning more comfortable.

2. First, the area could help more students use library books. The library already lends books during the school day, but many students have no quiet outdoor spot where they can open them. In addition, shade can lower the temperature under a covered space compared with direct sunlight. With a nearby book box, students could choose a book without walking across campus.

3. Some people may worry that the project would cost too much. However, families, local businesses, and the school could donate used benches, books, or materials for a simple canopy. Near the library, this useful space would support reading, outdoor lessons, and quiet conversation. For these reasons, our school should plan a shaded reading area for next year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What position does the writer state in the topic sentence?

2. Write two details from the passage that support the writer's position.

3. Which transition begins the second sentence of paragraph 3, and what ideas does it connect?

4. What does the final sentence ask the school to do?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a different improvement for your school. Write a five-sentence persuasive paragraph with a clear position, two factual details, a transition word or phrase, a prepositional phrase, and a concluding statement.

ANSWER KEY

Make It Convincing

GRADE 5 · 5.W.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the topic sentence, circle the transition words or phrases, and draw a box around the concluding statement. These choices show how the writer organizes a persuasive argument. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What position does the writer state in the topic sentence?	**The school should create a shaded outdoor reading area beside the library.**
2	Write two details from the passage that support the writer's position.	**Possible details: the blacktop can become too hot, the library lends books but students lack a quiet outdoor reading spot, and shade lowers the temperature compared with direct sunlight.**
3	Which transition begins the second sentence of paragraph 3, and what ideas does it connect?	**However. It connects the concern about cost to the response that donations could provide materials.**
4	What does the final sentence ask the school to do?	**Plan a shaded reading area for next year.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should install a bike rack near the main entrance. A rack keeps bicycles upright and in one place. In addition, it can help keep nearby walkways clear when students arrive by bike. Near the entrance, students could lock their bicycles before class. For these reasons, a bike rack would make arrival safer and more organized.

Accept equivalent wording for the short answers when it is supported by the passage. For the paragraph, accept a different school improvement if it has five sentences, a clear position, relevant factual support, a transition, a prepositional phrase, and a conclusion.