Shelters and Support

Trace claims and evidence in a city proposal.

6.RI.1.C "Trace the argument and specific claims in texts, distinguishing claims that are supported by evidence and reasons, from claims that are not."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the main argument and each claim. Circle each fact or reason that supports a claim, and put an X beside a claim the passage does not support.

A Better Bus Stop Plan

1. Riverton should add shaded shelters at its busiest bus stops. Many riders wait outdoors in sun, rain, or snow, especially near the library, hospital, and middle school. A 2024 count by the transit department found that these three stops together serve about 1,100 boardings on an average weekday. Shelters with roofs and benches would give riders a safer, more comfortable place to wait. The city does not need to build shelters at every stop at once. It can begin where the most people board.

2. Some people may worry that shelters cost too much. However, the transit department already plans to replace eight worn signs this year. Installing shelters at those same locations could combine construction work and reduce repeated street closures. In a survey of 260 riders, 189 people said they had stood in bad weather while waiting for a bus during the past month. That result supports the claim that weather protection is a real need. It does not prove that every rider wants a bench, but it gives the city a reason to consider shelters.

3. Council member Lee also says that bus shelters will cause students to arrive at school earlier and will make buses run faster. The information above does not include arrival times, school schedules, or bus travel speeds. A roof and bench may improve waiting conditions, but they do not automatically change when a bus comes or how quickly it moves through traffic. Before using those claims to make a decision, the council would need evidence, such as records comparing arrival times or travel times before and after shelters are built.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's main argument?

2. Which evidence supports the claim that riders need weather protection? Explain how it supports the claim.

3. Name one claim from paragraph 3 that is not supported by the information in the passage. Why is it unsupported?

4. Why does the survey not support the claim that every rider wants a bench?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about one change your school should make. State your argument, give two specific reasons or pieces of evidence, and include one claim that is not supported by your reasons, labeling it as unsupported.

ANSWER KEY

Shelters and Support

GRADE 6 · 6.RI.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the main argument and each claim. Circle each fact or reason that supports a claim, and put an X beside a claim the passage does not support. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's main argument?	**Riverton should add shaded shelters at its busiest bus stops.**
2	Which evidence supports the claim that riders need weather protection? Explain how it supports the claim.	**In the survey, 189 of 260 riders said they had waited in bad weather during the past month. This shows that many riders experience bad weather while waiting for buses.**
3	Name one claim from paragraph 3 that is not supported by the information in the passage. Why is it unsupported?	**The claim that shelters will cause students to arrive at school earlier, or that buses will run faster, is unsupported because the passage gives no arrival-time, school-schedule, or bus-speed evidence.**
4	Why does the survey not support the claim that every rider wants a bench?	**The survey only reports that riders waited in bad weather. It does not ask whether every rider wants a bench.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water-bottle filling station near the gym. The current fountain has one low spout, and teams often wait in line after practice, so a filling station could shorten the wait and help students refill reusable bottles. Unsupported claim: Adding one will make every student drink eight cups of water each day.

Accept equivalent wording for the main argument and for either unsupported claim in paragraph 3. For Part 3, accept varied school topics if the student clearly states an argument, provides two relevant reasons or pieces of evidence, and identifies a claim that those reasons do not support.