City Cooling Plans

Compare how two writers develop solutions to the same problem.

6.RI.3 "Integration of Concepts Describe ideas within and between selections including how specific sentences, paragraphs, or sections contribute to the development of ideas..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each selection's solution, circle the detail that shows how each writer opens, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside the problem, explanation, and recommendation in Selection A. These marks will help you compare how the writers organize their ideas.

Two Ways to Cool a City

1 On hot summer days, paved streets and dark roofs absorb sunlight and release heat slowly after sunset. This urban heat island effect can make cities warmer than nearby rural areas, especially at night. The two selections below examine ways to lower neighborhood temperatures. Both focus on reducing heat absorbed by surfaces, but they organize their ideas differently. Selection A follows a citywide plan for adding tree cover. Selection B examines a building-by-building plan for using cool roofs. As you read, notice how each writer supports a proposed solution.

2 Selection A, by a city planning writer, begins with a map showing that neighborhoods with fewer trees often have more pavement. The writer then explains that leaves shade sidewalks and that trees release water vapor, which can cool the air. Next, the selection admits that young trees need watering and years to grow large canopies. It ends by arguing that planting trees along bus stops, schoolyards, and wide streets can protect people over time. This order moves from a problem, to an explanation, to a long-term recommendation.

3 Selection B, by a housing reporter, opens with the experience of a resident whose top-floor apartment stays hot after a sunny day. The reporter describes cool roofs, which use light-colored or specially coated materials to reflect more sunlight than dark roofs. Unlike Selection A, this selection focuses on one building feature and includes a contractor's estimate that roof work may cost money at first. Its final paragraph explains that a cooler roof can lower indoor temperatures and reduce air-conditioning use. The personal opening makes the citywide problem feel immediate.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does paragraph 1 help you understand why Selection A and Selection B can be compared?

2. Compare the openings of Selection A and Selection B. How does each writer introduce the heat problem?

3. How does the sentence about young trees needing water and time contribute to Selection A's recommendation?

4. What idea do both writers agree on, even though they propose different solutions?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write 3 sentences comparing how the two writers present their solutions. Include one detail about an opening and one detail about the order of ideas, then explain how those choices affect the reader.

ANSWER KEY

City Cooling Plans

GRADE 6 · 6.RI.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each selection's solution, circle the detail that shows how each writer opens, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside the problem, explanation, and recommendation in Selection A. These marks will help you compare how the writers organize their ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does paragraph 1 help you understand why Selection A and Selection B can be compared?	**It introduces the shared problem of city heat and explains that both selections examine ways to lower temperatures, even though they organize their ideas differently.**
2	Compare the openings of Selection A and Selection B. How does each writer introduce the heat problem?	**Selection A opens with a map and a citywide pattern involving trees and pavement. Selection B opens with one resident's hot apartment, making the problem personal.**
3	How does the sentence about young trees needing water and time contribute to Selection A's recommendation?	**It adds a limitation to the tree plan, showing that the recommendation is a balanced, long-term solution rather than an instant fix.**
4	What idea do both writers agree on, even though they propose different solutions?	**Both agree that reducing the heat absorbed from sunlight can help make city spaces cooler.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both writers suggest ways to make city spaces cooler, but they begin differently. The planning writer starts with a map and explains tree benefits before recommending planting, which makes trees seem like a carefully considered long-term plan. The housing reporter starts with one resident and then explains cool-roof materials and costs, making the need for a roof solution seem immediate and personal.

Accept comparisons that accurately identify the shared goal, different openings, and different ways the writers build their ideas. For the open response, accept supported explanations of how an organizational choice affects the reader.