City Sky Reflections

Use text details to explain how reading shapes your thinking.

6.W.1.D "Write reflectively in response to text(s) read to demonstrate thinking with details, examples, and other evidence from the text(s)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details the writer takes from the article, and circle the sentences that explain how those details changed or extended the writer's thinking.

A Response to "Wings Over the City"

1. After reading the article "Wings Over the City," I changed my mind about peregrine falcons. I used to think wild birds needed forests far from people. The article explained that falcons nest on tall buildings because the ledges resemble cliffs. It also described how the birds hunt pigeons over open streets. These details helped me see a city as a habitat, not only as a place of traffic and concrete and noise all day for humans.

2. One detail stayed with me: in the 1970s, peregrine falcons nearly disappeared from eastern North America because of DDT, a pesticide. The article said DDT made eggshells thin, so many eggs broke before chicks hatched. I felt worried because a chemical meant to control insects harmed an animal far from farms and gardens. Still, the article noted that limits on DDT and breeding programs helped populations recover. That evidence made the recovery seem hopeful, but also fragile to me.

3. The writer's choices made me consider what people owe animals that share human spaces. If tall buildings can become nesting sites, city planners could protect known nests during repairs instead of treating them as problems. I also wonder whether people notice the falcons only when they are unusual or dramatic. The article's account of broken eggs showed that human actions can have effects we do not see right away. My response is not simply that falcons are impressive. I think their return asks people to pay closer attention to the living things around them.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What idea did the writer revise after reading the article? Use two article details that led to this change.

2. How does the detail about DDT affect the writer's response to the article? Explain using evidence from the passage.

3. Why does the writer describe the falcons' recovery as both “hopeful” and “fragile”?

4. What broader idea does the writer develop in the last paragraph? Give one detail that supports your answer.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 5 to 7 sentence reflection on this response. State one idea it makes you think about, use at least two details from the response, and explain how each detail shapes your thinking.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 6 · 6.W.1.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three details the writer takes from the article, and circle the sentences that explain how those details changed or extended the writer's thinking. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What idea did the writer revise after reading the article? Use two article details that led to this change.	**The writer stopped thinking wild birds need forests far from people. The article said falcons nest on building ledges like cliffs and hunt pigeons over city streets.**
2	How does the detail about DDT affect the writer's response to the article? Explain using evidence from the passage.	**It makes the writer feel worried because DDT caused thin eggshells and broken eggs, showing that a chemical used by people harmed falcons.**
3	Why does the writer describe the falcons' recovery as both “hopeful” and “fragile”?	**Limits on DDT and breeding programs helped the population recover, which is hopeful. The earlier harm from DDT shows that human actions can still threaten the birds, which makes recovery fragile.**
4	What broader idea does the writer develop in the last paragraph? Give one detail that supports your answer.	**The writer develops the idea that people have a responsibility to notice and protect wildlife in cities. For example, city planners could protect known falcon nests during building repairs.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Reading this response made me think that conservation can happen close to home. The writer explains that falcons use building ledges like cliffs, which shows that cities can support wildlife. The account of thin eggshells made me realize that human choices can hurt animals even when the harm is not immediate. I agree with the writer that recovered populations still need attention. People should learn about the species that live in their neighborhoods and protect their nesting places.

Accept thoughtful claims that are supported by accurate details from the passage. For the open response, look for a clear personal reflection, at least two relevant text details, and an explanation of how the details shape the student's thinking.