Question Lens

Match the question to the evidence.

7.R.1.A "Formulate questions about a research topic, broadening or narrowing the inquiry as necessary."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each research question. Circle words that set its scope, such as a place, group, time, or type of information.

Studying City Bats

1. Research questions guide a search for information. A topic such as school lunches is too large to investigate all at once. A broad question might ask, "How do cafeteria choices affect students?" To focus the inquiry, a researcher could ask, "How does adding a salad bar change vegetable selection during seventh-grade lunch?" The second question names one change, a group, and a time. A useful question is focused enough to research, but open enough that sources can supply evidence.

2. Suppose a class chooses the topic of bats in Riverton, a city with parks, a river bridge, and older brick buildings. Many bats eat insects, and some species roost in trees, bridges, or buildings. The class first asks, "What bats live in Riverton?" That question may be too broad because it could require years of surveys across the whole city. Students read that the city parks department counted bats near Riverside Park on summer evenings.

3. After finding initial sources, researchers adjust their questions. A question about every bat in Riverton could narrow to one place, season, or observation. For example, a student might ask, "Which bat species were counted near Riverside Park on summer evenings?" This question matches the available record, but it may lead to new questions about counting methods or habitat. If a source lists only totals, not species, the student should broaden the question to ask about bat activity rather than species.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write a broad research question about bat roosts in Riverton that includes both the river bridge and the older brick buildings.

2. Narrow the question from Question 1 so it could be studied at one place during one season.

3. A source reports only the total number of bats observed near the river bridge each fall. Rewrite this question so it matches the source: "Which bat species were observed near the river bridge each fall?"

4. Why is the question in Question 2 narrower than the question in Question 1? Name two limits it adds.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a school or community topic. Write one broad research question and one narrower question about it, then name a source that could help answer the narrower question.

Question Lens

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each research question. Circle words that set its scope, such as a place, group, time, or type of information. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write a broad research question about bat roosts in Riverton that includes both the river bridge and the older brick buildings.	**How do bats use Riverton's river bridge and older brick buildings as roosts?**
2	Narrow the question from Question 1 so it could be studied at one place during one season.	**Which bat species roost at Riverton's river bridge during summer?**
3	A source reports only the total number of bats observed near the river bridge each fall. Rewrite this question so it matches the source: "Which bat species were observed near the river bridge each fall?"	**How many bats were observed near the river bridge each fall?**
4	Why is the question in Question 2 narrower than the question in Question 1? Name two limits it adds.	**It focuses on one place, the river bridge, and one season, summer.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My topic is water fountains at school. Broad question: How do students use water fountains during the school day? Narrower question: How many times do students use the fountain outside the gym between 11:30 and 12:00? I would use an observation tally from that location and time.

Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text. Accept varied wording when the question fits the stated topic and uses accurate details from the passage. For the open task, accept a broad question, a clearly narrower question with added limits, and a reasonable source for the narrower question.