The Refill Case

Study how a model editorial groups claims, evidence, and reasoning.

7.W.1.C "Write persuasively supporting a well-defined point of view with appropriate claims, relevant evidence, and clear reasoning that are logically grouped."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the author's main claim. Circle each piece of evidence, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside it to show which reason it supports.

A Refill Station for Our School

(1) Our school should add a water-refill station near the cafeteria. Many students finish lunch with empty bottles, yet the nearest fountain is across the hall and often has a line. During a five-day count, the Student Council found that 68 students carried reusable bottles at lunch. A refill station would let those students fill bottles quickly before class. This change would support students who already bring reusable containers and would make drinking water easier to reach.

(2) Adding the station would also cut down on single-use plastic bottles. In a trash check after one lunch period, council members counted 41 empty water bottles in the cafeteria bins. Some students may buy bottled water because they cannot refill a bottle nearby. If a station stood by the cafeteria doors, students could refill before lunch, during lunch, or on the way to class. Fewer purchased bottles could mean less plastic waste in the bins and on the school grounds.

(3) Cost is a reasonable concern, but the school can plan for it. The facilities manager reported that a water line already runs behind the cafeteria wall, so installation would not require digging across campus. The Student Council could also ask the parent group and local businesses to help fund the project. Because the station would serve students every day, its benefits would last longer than a one-time event. The principal should approve a refill station near the cafeteria this year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the author's main claim?

2. What evidence in paragraph 2 supports the claim that the station could reduce plastic waste? Explain how the evidence supports that reason.

3. How does the author logically group the reasons for adding a refill station across the three paragraphs?

4. What concern does the author address in paragraph 3, and what evidence or reasoning answers that concern?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a school improvement you support. Write two paragraphs that state a clear claim, give two different reasons in separate groups, and use a specific piece of relevant evidence for each reason. Explain how each piece of evidence supports your claim.

ANSWER KEY

The Refill Case

GRADE 7 · 7.W.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the author's main claim. Circle each piece of evidence, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside it to show which reason it supports. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the author's main claim?	**The school should add a water-refill station near the cafeteria.**
2	What evidence in paragraph 2 supports the claim that the station could reduce plastic waste? Explain how the evidence supports that reason.	**Council members counted 41 empty water bottles in cafeteria bins after one lunch period. This shows that many single-use bottles are thrown away, so refilling reusable bottles could reduce that waste.**
3	How does the author logically group the reasons for adding a refill station across the three paragraphs?	**Paragraph 1 focuses on easy access to water, paragraph 2 focuses on reducing plastic waste, and paragraph 3 addresses cost and long-term benefits.**
4	What concern does the author address in paragraph 3, and what evidence or reasoning answers that concern?	**The concern is cost. The author explains that a water line already runs behind the cafeteria wall, and funding could come from the parent group and local businesses.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should provide a covered bike rack near the main entrance. On three rainy mornings, I saw eight bicycles left along the fence, where their seats and chains were wet. A covered rack would protect bicycles and make it easier for students to ride to school without worrying that rain will soak their bikes. A covered rack would also keep the entrance walkway safer. During arrival on Tuesday, four bicycles were parked beside the doorway, narrowing the path for students entering the building. Marked spaces in a bike rack would move bicycles away from the door. Since the rack would protect bikes and clear the entrance, the school should install one.

Accept equivalent statements of the claim, evidence, and reasoning when students accurately connect details from the passage. For the writing task, accept varied school improvements if the response has a clear point of view, two logically grouped reasons, relevant specific evidence, and explanations of how the evidence supports each reason.