More Than Shade

Analyze how each part builds a careful claim.

8.RI.3.A "Analyze ideas within and between selections including how specific sentences, paragraphs, sections, and text features contribute to the development and refinement of the ideas presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one sentence in each paragraph that develops or refines the main idea, then number your underlined sentences 1, 2, and 3. Circle words that show the idea becoming more specific or more careful.

Cooling Takes More Than Trees

1 On a summer afternoon, pavement can become far hotter than the air above it. That stored heat makes city neighborhoods uncomfortable even after sunset. Trees offer one practical response. Their leaves block sunlight before it reaches sidewalks and roofs, and water evaporating from leaves cools nearby air. For this reason, planners often call tree cover part of a city's cooling system. Yet a map of tree cover can reveal an important problem: shade is not distributed evenly across every neighborhood.

2 Scientists measure this difference with surface-temperature maps. In many cities, areas with fewer trees tend to show hotter surfaces, especially where dark roofs and wide roads absorb sunlight. The maps do not prove that trees alone cause every temperature difference. Building materials, traffic, and access to air conditioning also matter. Still, the maps help officials identify places where added trees could reduce exposure to heat. This evidence refines the earlier claim: planting trees is useful, but decisions should consider local conditions and other cooling needs.

3 Tree planting also raises questions about time and care. A newly planted tree may need years to grow a broad canopy, and young trees require water, pruning, and protection from damage. Residents can help choose species that fit the local climate and available space. For example, a tree planted beneath power lines must stay small enough to avoid them. The first paragraph introduces trees as a cooling tool, while this paragraph shows why a successful plan includes maintenance, safety, and community input, not just a target number of trees.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the title, "Cooling Takes More Than Trees," prepare you for the ideas in the passage?

2. How do the first two sentences of paragraph 1 contribute to the passage's main idea?

3. What does the sentence "The maps do not prove that trees alone cause every temperature difference" add to the claim about trees?

4. How does paragraph 3 develop the idea introduced in paragraph 1?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence analysis of the passage. State the main idea in sentence 1, then quote one sentence from each of two different paragraphs and explain how each sentence develops or refines that idea.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one sentence in each paragraph that develops or refines the main idea, then number your underlined sentences 1, 2, and 3. Circle words that show the idea becoming more specific or more careful. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the title, "Cooling Takes More Than Trees," prepare you for the ideas in the passage?	**It suggests that trees can help cool cities, but trees alone are not a complete solution.**
2	How do the first two sentences of paragraph 1 contribute to the passage's main idea?	**They establish that heat stored in pavement makes city neighborhoods uncomfortable, creating the problem that tree cover can help address.**
3	What does the sentence "The maps do not prove that trees alone cause every temperature difference" add to the claim about trees?	**It limits the claim by explaining that other factors, such as building materials, traffic, and air conditioning, also affect temperature.**
4	How does paragraph 3 develop the idea introduced in paragraph 1?	**Paragraph 1 presents trees as a cooling tool, while paragraph 3 explains that effective tree planting also requires time, care, safe species choices, and community input.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The passage argues that trees can help cities manage heat, but planting plans must fit each neighborhood. The sentence "The maps do not prove that trees alone cause every temperature difference" refines the claim by showing that officials must consider more than tree cover. The sentence "A newly planted tree may need years to grow a broad canopy" develops the idea by explaining why cooling benefits require long-term planning.

Accept equivalent explanations that accurately connect a sentence or paragraph to the developing claim. For the open response, require a clear main idea, two accurate quotations from different paragraphs, and an explanation of each quotation's contribution.