

Proposal in Focus

Trace how a formal proposal builds one clear central idea.

8.W.2.A.ii "Generate and organize ideas using the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing) to develop multi-paragraph texts. This includes: Establishing a central idea that aligns with the thesis and maintaining an organized structure..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the thesis statement. Then number the two body-paragraph reasons that support it, writing 1 beside the first reason and 2 beside the second reason.

A Shelter for Bicycles

- ① Many students and staff members ride bicycles to school, yet the current racks stand in an uncovered area near the gym. Rain can leave seats and handlebars wet, and strong sun can damage plastic parts over time. The school should install a covered bicycle parking area beside the existing racks. This practical improvement would protect riders' equipment, encourage active transportation, and make the campus more orderly without requiring a large new structure for the school community each day during every season.
- ② First, a roof would make bicycle commuting more reliable. Students who arrive during a light rain could park their bicycles without leaving them exposed for the entire school day. A simple roof would not eliminate every weather challenge, but it would keep rain and snow off seats, baskets, and electronic lights. The shelter could also provide a visible place for riders to lock bicycles correctly, reducing clutter along nearby walkways at dismissal, when foot traffic is busiest.
- ③ Second, covered parking can support the school's health and environmental goals. Bicycling is a form of physical activity, and choosing a bicycle instead of a car can reduce traffic near school entrances. The project would serve students who already ride while showing other families that bicycle travel is welcomed. Because the new area would use the current rack location, installation could be planned with limited disruption. For these reasons, covered bicycle parking is a sensible campus improvement.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the passage's central idea, or thesis?

2 How does paragraph 2 develop the thesis? Use one detail from the paragraph in your answer.

3 What two benefits from paragraph 3 support the proposal?

4 What point of view does the writer maintain? Copy one phrase that shows this point of view.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a school improvement. First, write a planning line with a thesis and two reasons, then write a three-paragraph formal proposal that introduces the thesis and develops one reason in each remaining paragraph with specific details, using third-person point of view throughout.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the thesis statement. Then number the two body-paragraph reasons that support it, writing 1 beside the first reason and 2 beside the second reason. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the passage's central idea, or thesis?	The school should install a covered bicycle parking area beside the existing racks.
2	How does paragraph 2 develop the thesis? Use one detail from the paragraph in your answer.	It explains that a roof would make commuting more reliable by protecting bicycles from rain and snow, or by providing a clear place to lock them.
3	What two benefits from paragraph 3 support the proposal?	Covered parking supports health and environmental goals by encouraging bicycling and reducing traffic near school entrances.
4	What point of view does the writer maintain? Copy one phrase that shows this point of view.	The writer uses third-person point of view. Accept phrases such as "students who already ride," "other families," or "the school."

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Plan: The school should install a water bottle refill station near the cafeteria; reasons: it would provide convenient drinking water and reduce disposable bottle waste. The school should install a water bottle refill station near the cafeteria. A station would give students and staff convenient access to drinking water during lunch and after physical education. This improvement would serve many people in a busy part of campus. First, students could refill reusable bottles instead of searching for a drinking fountain between classes. A clearly marked station would be easy to locate in the cafeteria area. Convenient access could also help students who forget to fill bottles before school. Second, a refill station could reduce the number of disposable plastic bottles used at school events and lunches. Students and staff who carry reusable bottles would have an easy place to refill them. By supporting reusable containers, the school would make a practical improvement to its daily routines.

Accept equivalent statements of the thesis and any accurate supporting details from the passage. For the open task, look for a clear plan, a thesis that matches both body paragraphs, specific elaboration, formal language, and consistent third-person point of view.