

Speak With Purpose

Analyze how a speaker uses language, delivery, and structure for an audience.

9.C.2 "Speaking and Presentation of Ideas Report orally on a topic or text or present an opinion. This includes: Choosing vocabulary, language and tone appropriate to the topic, audience, and purpose..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline language that fits a respectful school council audience, circle each bracketed delivery or listening cue, and label the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 for introduction, explanation, and conclusion.

A Cooler Campus Path

- ① Members of the school council, our campus needs a cooler, safer walk from the bus loop to the main doors. [Stand tall and make eye contact.] I propose that we plant native shade trees along the path this fall. This plan will not solve every heat-related problem, but it will give students relief while they wait for rides or move between buildings. Today, I will explain why native trees fit our climate, how students can help care for them, and why this small change deserves the council's support.
- ② First, native trees are adapted to local rainfall and temperatures, so they usually need less water than trees brought from very different regions. Their roots can also help hold soil in place during heavy rain. [Pause, then gesture toward the map.] Our science club has identified three sunny sections beside the path, and the grounds manager says planting can occur after the first autumn rains. If a council member asks about cost, I will listen without interrupting, nod to show attention, and answer with the budget estimate from the club's plan.
- ③ To close, this proposal asks for a practical first step, not a perfect instant solution. [Slow your pace.] A greener path can make an ordinary school day more comfortable and can show that students help shape shared spaces. From our club's longer proposal, I will memorize this sentence: "We can grow shade today and a stronger school community for years to come." I will say it warmly, stressing "today" and "years," then pause before my final request. Council members, please approve a planning meeting with the grounds manager and student volunteers next week.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What central idea does the speaker state in the introduction?

2 What three points does the speaker preview in paragraph 1, and how does paragraph 2 develop one of them?

3 If a council member asks about cost, what listening and speaking strategies will the speaker use?

4 What sentence will the speaker memorize, which words will receive stress, and what final action does the speaker request?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 90-110-word oral proposal to a school leader about one improvement your school needs. Include a clear request, two reasons, two bracketed delivery cues, one quoted sentence you will memorize with words to stress, and a specific closing request.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline language that fits a respectful school council audience, circle each bracketed delivery or listening cue, and label the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 for introduction, explanation, and conclusion. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What central idea does the speaker state in the introduction?	The speaker proposes planting native shade trees along the path from the bus loop to the main doors.
2	What three points does the speaker preview in paragraph 1, and how does paragraph 2 develop one of them?	The speaker will explain climate fit, student care, and council support. Paragraph 2 develops climate fit by explaining that native trees usually need less water and can help hold soil in place.
3	If a council member asks about cost, what listening and speaking strategies will the speaker use?	The speaker will listen without interrupting, nod to show attention, and answer with the budget estimate from the club's plan.
4	What sentence will the speaker memorize, which words will receive stress, and what final action does the speaker request?	The speaker will memorize "We can grow shade today and a stronger school community for years to come," stress "today" and "years," and ask the council to approve a planning meeting next week.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Lee, our students need a water refill station near the gym. [Look at the audience.] I ask you to add one station before winter sports begin. First, athletes and performers could refill bottles quickly instead of missing class to visit distant fountains. Second, a refill station could reduce single-use plastic bottles at school events. [Pause and open your hands.] I will memorize and say, "Small choices can protect our shared space every day." I will stress "small" and "every day." Please meet with the student council this month to choose a location and review costs.

Accept equivalent wording for the central idea, supporting reasons, and final request when it matches the passage. For the open task, check for the required word range, organized proposal, audience-appropriate tone, two delivery cues, a memorized line with stated emphasis, and a specific request.