Evidence Detective Sort

Sort checkable information from evidence-based conclusions.

9.RI "The student will use textual evidence to demonstrate comprehension and build knowledge from grade-level complex informational texts read. Key Ideas and Confirming Details Analyze the development of main ideas over the course of texts..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

FACT

A fact is information that can be checked in a reliable source, such as a text, chart, map, or record.

A triangle has three sides.

REASONED JUDGMENT

A reasoned judgment is a conclusion or recommendation based on facts. It may need more evidence before it is fully confirmed.

Because insulated windows reduce heat loss, installing them could lower a building's heating costs.

1 SORT

8 items

For each statement, circle FACT or JUDGMENT, then in Part 2 choose two items and explain what evidence or reasoning helped you sort each one.

1.	The table reports that 42 of 60 survey respondents ride the bus.	FACT JUDGMENT
2.	Since 42 of 60 respondents ride the bus, adding a morning route could serve many students.	FACT JUDGMENT
3.	Because nitrate levels rose downstream from the factory, the discharge should be investigated as a possible source.	FACT JUDGMENT
4.	The map key shows that blue lines mark rivers.	FACT JUDGMENT
5.	The timeline places the treaty in 1848.	FACT JUDGMENT
6.	The graph shows a 15 percent drop in electricity use from May to June.	FACT JUDGMENT
7.	Electricity use fell after LED bulbs were installed while occupancy remained constant, so the LEDs likely helped reduce electricity use.	FACT JUDGMENT
8.	The diagram labels the turbine blades, generator, and tower.	FACT JUDGMENT

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

For Part 3, write one new FACT and one new JUDGMENT. Make sure your judgment includes evidence that supports it.

FACT _____

JUDGMENT _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one JUDGMENT item and name one specific piece of evidence that could strengthen or weaken it.

ANSWER KEY

Evidence Detective Sort

GRADE 9 · 9.RI

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The table reports that 42 of 60 survey respondents ride the bus.	**FACT**	This is a checkable report of data from a table.
2	Since 42 of 60 respondents ride the bus, adding a morning route could serve many students.	**JUDGMENT**	This is a possible conclusion based on the survey data.
3	Because nitrate levels rose downstream from the factory, the discharge should be investigated as a possible source.	**JUDGMENT**	This recommendation uses evidence but does not claim the factory is proven to be the source.
4	The map key shows that blue lines mark rivers.	**FACT**	This can be checked directly in the map key.
5	The timeline places the treaty in 1848.	**FACT**	This is a checkable detail from a timeline.
6	The graph shows a 15 percent drop in electricity use from May to June.	**FACT**	This is a checkable claim about graph data.
7	Electricity use fell after LED bulbs were installed while occupancy remained constant, so the LEDs likely helped reduce electricity use.	**JUDGMENT**	This is a likely conclusion drawn from evidence, not a certain fact.
8	The diagram labels the turbine blades, generator, and tower.	**FACT**	This can be checked directly in the diagram.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **FACT**: The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean on Earth.
- **JUDGMENT**: Because the report shows fewer crashes after the speed limit changed, the city should study whether the change improved safety.

Challenge: For item 2, ridership counts by time of day could strengthen the claim if many students need transportation before school, or weaken it if few students need that route.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Facts are checkable details from a source or visual. Reasoned judgments draw a conclusion, prediction, or recommendation from evidence and may require additional evidence to confirm them.