

Evidence Before Voting

Compare sources to weigh a city transportation proposal.

S.CE.a “selecting and synthesizing evidence from information sources including, but not limited to artifacts, primary and secondary sources, charts, graphs, and diagrams to understand civics and economics;”

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB In the passage and table, underline each source, circle one detail it contributes, and number the four sources in the order they appear. This will help you see how different evidence can inform one decision.

Free Rides After School?

- ① Riverton’s council is considering a proposal to make city buses free for students after school. To understand the issue, council members gathered several kinds of evidence. A transportation department report, a secondary source, explains that bus fares pay part of the program. The report uses records collected by the city, but it does not show what students need after school.
- ② At a public meeting, students gave primary-source testimony about missing tutoring and jobs when they could not pay the fare. A petition signed by 312 parents is an artifact that shows community support, although signatures do not prove how many students would ride. The department also counted student rides during one week. Its numbers appear in the table.

STUDENT BUS RIDES AFTER 3 P.M., ONE WEEK

Day	Student rides	Fare revenue
Monday	180	\$270
Tuesday	195	\$292.50
Wednesday	210	\$315
Thursday	205	\$307.50
Friday	240	\$360

- ③ The evidence points to both a civic benefit and an economic cost. Testimony and the petition suggest that free rides could help students reach activities, but the ride count shows when demand is highest. Before voting, council members should compare the lost fare revenue with possible funding from the city budget or local partners. A careful decision uses more than one source rather than relying on a single statement.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Name one primary source and the secondary source in the passage. What can each source show council members?

2 Why would the parent petition be insufficient evidence by itself for predicting student bus use?

3 Which day should council members examine first when planning service for the busiest after-school period? Use the table's ride and revenue numbers in your answer.

4 What claim is supported when you combine the student testimony with the ride-count table? Explain how both sources support it.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 70-100 word recommendation to the council about the proposal. Use evidence from at least three sources, including the table, and explain one limitation of a source.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

In the passage and table, underline each source, circle one detail it contributes, and number the four sources in the order they appear. This will help you see how different evidence can inform one decision. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name one primary source and the secondary source in the passage. What can each source show council members?	The students' public-meeting testimony is a primary source and can show students' experiences with fares. The transportation department report is a secondary source and can show that fares pay part of the program.
2	Why would the parent petition be insufficient evidence by itself for predicting student bus use?	The petition shows community support, but signatures do not prove how many students would ride the bus.
3	Which day should council members examine first when planning service for the busiest after-school period? Use the table's ride and revenue numbers in your answer.	Friday, with 240 student rides and \$360 in fare revenue.
4	What claim is supported when you combine the student testimony with the ride-count table? Explain how both sources support it.	Free after-school rides could help students access tutoring or jobs, and there is already substantial after-school bus demand. Testimony describes the barrier, and the table shows many student rides.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I recommend a six-month free-ride pilot after school. Student testimony shows that some riders miss tutoring or jobs when they lack fare money. The parent petition shows support, though signatures do not tell how many students will ride. The table shows 240 Friday rides, the highest daily total, so the city should plan for busy days. The transportation report warns that fares pay part of the program, so council should find city or partner funding before expanding the pilot.

Accept accurate source descriptions and claims that combine evidence rather than treating one source as complete proof. For the open response, accept a supported recommendation in either direction if it uses at least three passage sources, includes table evidence, and identifies a valid limitation.