

Argumentative Reading: Evaluating Claims, Evidence & Reasoning



Use the matching sheet ID when checking answers.

Read the argumentative editorial below. Evaluate how effectively the author structures their primary claim, substantiating evidence, and counterclaim rebuttal.

1. What is the author's PRIMARY CLAIM in this argumentative essay?

Answer: B. Urban rewilding with native vegetation is a vital necessity to lower urban temperatures and revitalize cities.

The author clearly states their thesis in paragraph 1: 'urban rewilding—restoring native plant corridors... is an urgent ecological and civic necessity.'

2. Which piece of evidence from paragraph 2 best supports the scientific reason that vegetation reduces the 'heat island effect'?

Answer: B. Native plants provide physical shade and cool surrounding air through evapotranspiration.

Paragraph 2 explicitly connects cooling to biological mechanisms: 'dense native flora naturally shades pavements and releases cool moisture through evapotranspiration.'

3. How does the author respond to the counterclaim that rewilding degrades city aesthetics and commercial value?

Answer: B. By citing an invented survey in the practice scenario claiming that green streetscapes boosted commercial activity by 18%.

In the final paragraph, the author cites a hypothetical survey claiming that greenery increased pedestrian commerce by 18%. This describes the rhetorical response in the invented scenario; it does not verify a real survey or benefit.