English Language Arts 10-2

Unit 4: Create and refine texts

Nine students, eighty-six dollars

Every section serves one sentence

- Controlling idea: The school should fund one Thursday loop at $86 because nine practicum students miss the 3:40 and wait for a ride.
- The topic belongs to the writers. They are among the students who wait on the office bench, so the page stays with that Thursday.
- Time and resources: one evening, and notes already checked. A new survey would miss Friday. The chart uses the nine, the $86, and the two clock times.
- One lived line earns its place: I sat on the office bench with my practicum binder until my uncle finished his shift. The vending machine stays out.

The claim and its rows

Controlling idea
The school should fund one Thursday loop at $86 because nine practicum students miss the 3:40 and wait for a ride.

Chart
Who: nine. Cost: $86 in September. Gap: practicum ends at 4:10 and the bus leaves at 3:40.

Lived line
I sat on the office bench with my practicum binder until my uncle finished his shift.

One claim, then only what feeds it

- A controlling idea is one sentence the background, the options, and the ending all serve.
- A supporting detail is checkable or plainly lived. Nine is checkable. The binder on the bench is lived.
- The chart is how you develop the page. The numbers in it are the ones you already checked.
- Audience decides the dose. She needs the dollar. A classmate already knows it. She needs one clear picture.

Key terms

controlling idea

The one claim every section of the text is there to support.

supporting detail

A fact or a lived moment that makes the claim specific enough to use.

A recommendation

- Who, cost, and gap are enough rows. A fourth row called other thoughts invites clutter.
- The uncle's shift explains the wait in human time. The $86 stays in its own row.
- If the claim is the loop, a paragraph about city council has nowhere to sit in the chart.
- Say the claim out loud. A detail stays when you can connect it in one breath.

The chart under the sentence

- Claim: fund one Thursday loop at $86 because nine students miss the 3:40 and wait.
- Who: nine, after two walked. Cost: $86, September. Gap: 4:10 and 3:40.
- Lived line: the binder and the uncle’s shift. One sentence, in the background.
- Cut: the vending machine, a city-council history, a second anecdote about Monday.

Fourteen trays, one claim

- Mr. Okonkwo watched Tuesday's lunch line. His tally: fourteen students left the 12:05 line with no tray. Class starts at 12:20.
- You were one of the fourteen and you had a lab at 12:20.
- Write a controlling idea for the vice principal and one lived detail. Leave out a history of cafeteria food.

Review

- Cover the bus chart and the lunch claim.
- Friday’s greenhouse log: eight yellow leaves on one tray. You pinched two and the tray tipped when you rushed.
- Write a controlling idea for the greenhouse lead and one supporting detail from that log or from your hands.