Shade Where People Wait

B2 Upper-intermediate · Places · about 2 min of audio

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Name _____ Date _____

Part 1 — Fill the gaps while you listen

1. A shaded bench can feel cooler than one across the road, despite similar _____.
2. That _____ comes partly from pavement, which absorbs sunlight and later releases stored heat.
3. The Forest Service reports that shaded surfaces can be up to forty degrees _____ cooler.
4. This figure describes surface _____, not the air people breathe, a distinction often overlooked.
5. Cooler pavement stores less energy, so nearby walls and sidewalks may remain more _____ after sunset.
6. Yet trees cannot solve every hot street, _____ young crowns cast little shade and roots need room.
7. _____ can map afternoon shade, then place seats where people actually wait, rather than where plans look balanced.
8. Pale paving can help too, although reflected light may create glare for _____ and residents nearby.
9. The useful measure is _____ not simply how many trees a street gains.
10. It is whether shade reaches people and surfaces during the hottest hours, without shifting _____ elsewhere.

Part 2 — Write every sentence you hear

1. _____

2. _____

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Answer key

Part 1 — the missing words

1. sunlight 2. contrast 3. Fahrenheit 4. temperatures 5. comfortable 6. because 7. Engineers 8. pedestrians 9. therefore 10. discomfort

Part 2 — the full transcript

1. A shaded bench can feel cooler than one across the road, despite similar sunlight.
2. That contrast comes partly from pavement, which absorbs sunlight and later releases stored heat.
3. The Forest Service reports that shaded surfaces can be up to forty degrees Fahrenheit cooler.
4. This figure describes surface temperatures, not the air people breathe, a distinction often overlooked.
5. Cooler pavement stores less energy, so nearby walls and sidewalks may remain more comfortable after sunset.
6. Yet trees cannot solve every hot street, because young crowns cast little shade and roots need room.
7. Engineers can map afternoon shade, then place seats where people actually wait, rather than where plans look balanced.
8. Pale paving can help too, although reflected light may create glare for pedestrians and residents nearby.
9. The useful measure is therefore not simply how many trees a street gains.
10. It is whether shade reaches people and surfaces during the hottest hours, without shifting discomfort elsewhere.

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