

Rack Up Reasons

Read a model argument and trace how evidence supports a claim.

6W1 "Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's claim, circle each reason, and number each piece of evidence that supports the argument.

A Covered Bike Rack

- ① Our school should install a covered bicycle rack beside the main entrance. More students could choose to ride if they knew their bicycles would stay dry and secure during the school day. At present, the only rack stands in an open area behind the gym. When rain falls, students must leave wet seats and handlebars outside. A roofed rack would make biking a more practical way to get to school, especially during rainy months in our town.
- ② Student council members surveyed 60 students who live within two miles of school. Twenty-two students said they would ride more often if a covered rack were available, while only six said the current open rack met their needs in wet weather. This evidence matters because students who live nearby are the people most able to bike. A rack that protects bicycles could remove a specific problem named by many potential riders, rather than guessing what would change their travel choices.
- ③ Some families may worry that a covered rack would cost too much or take space from other projects. Yet the school already has a paved area beside the entrance, so workers would not need to create a new path or parking lot. The rack could be installed there without blocking the sidewalk. Because it addresses rain, uses existing space, and responds to student survey results, a covered bicycle rack is a sensible improvement for the school.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the writer's main claim?

2 Name one reason the writer gives for adding a covered rack. Then give one piece of evidence that supports that reason.

3 Why is the student council survey relevant evidence for this argument?

4 What concern does the writer acknowledge in paragraph 3? How does the writer respond to it?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one improvement your school could make. Write a six-sentence argument that states a claim, gives two reasons, includes two pieces of relevant evidence, and answers one possible concern.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's claim, circle each reason, and number each piece of evidence that supports the argument. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's main claim?	The school should install a covered bicycle rack beside the main entrance.
2	Name one reason the writer gives for adding a covered rack. Then give one piece of evidence that supports that reason.	Reason: A covered rack would make biking more practical in rainy weather. Evidence: Twenty-two of 60 nearby students said they would ride more often if a covered rack were available.
3	Why is the student council survey relevant evidence for this argument?	The survey asked students who live within two miles of school, the students most able to bike. Their answers show that wet-weather protection could affect whether they ride.
4	What concern does the writer acknowledge in paragraph 3? How does the writer respond to it?	The writer acknowledges that the rack could cost too much or take space from other projects. The response is that a paved area already exists beside the entrance, so no new path or parking lot would be needed.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water-bottle refill station near the gym. It would give athletes and other students a quick place to refill reusable bottles. During three lunch periods, I saw 14 students wait at the single drinking fountain near the cafeteria. In a class survey, 19 of 24 students said they bring reusable bottles at least once a week. A refill station could shorten lines and help students use fewer disposable bottles. Although the station would cost money, placing it near existing plumbing could limit installation work.

Accept equivalent claims, reasons, and evidence if they accurately match the passage. For the open response, accept realistic school improvements with a clear claim, two reasons, two relevant pieces of evidence, and a response to a concern.