

The Refill Proposal

Study how a model argument uses precise language and evidence.

7W1.c "Use precise language and content-specific vocabulary to argue a claim."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's claim, circle at least four precise or content-specific words or phrases, and number the two pieces of numerical evidence. These details show how an argument can be clear, measurable, and convincing.

A Careful Water Station Trial

- ① Our school should test one filtered water refill station for a semester. The station would give students a place to refill reusable bottles near the gym, where athletes often need water after practice. This proposal is not simply about convenience. It could reduce the number of single-use plastic bottles placed in hallway recycling bins and trash cans. A semester-long trial would let the school measure results with local data about use before making a permanent purchase.
- ② Evidence from a small school test supports the trial. During two weeks in May, student volunteers counted 186 discarded drink bottles in bins near the gym. In the same period, the nurse recorded 14 students who asked for a drinking cup after forgetting a bottle. These counts do not prove that every student would use a station, but they identify a need. The trial could track refills, bottle waste, and maintenance time with weekly logs.
- ③ Some people may argue that a refill station costs too much and could slow the custodial staff. Those concerns deserve a careful response. Instead of buying a station immediately, the school can request price quotes and use the semester trial to compare the station's cost with the cost of purchasing disposable cups for events. The facilities manager can record cleaning minutes and report leaks or litter. If the data show high costs or extra cleanup, the school should not continue the program.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 State the writer's claim in one precise sentence.

2 What two numerical details does the writer use as evidence? Explain what need those details suggest.

3 Which three outcomes would the weekly logs track? Why is this more precise than saying the school should "see whether it works"?

4 What counterclaim does the writer address? Give one planned response to the cost concern and one planned response to the cleanup concern.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a school improvement you know about. Write exactly four sentences that state a claim, include a specific observation or count as evidence, use at least two precise or content-specific terms, and answer one counterclaim.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's claim, circle at least four precise or content-specific words or phrases, and number the two pieces of numerical evidence. These details show how an argument can be clear, measurable, and convincing. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	State the writer's claim in one precise sentence.	The school should test one filtered water refill station for a semester.
2	What two numerical details does the writer use as evidence? Explain what need those details suggest.	Students counted 186 discarded drink bottles, and the nurse recorded 14 students who asked for cups. The details suggest a need for a place to refill bottles near the gym.
3	Which three outcomes would the weekly logs track? Why is this more precise than saying the school should "see whether it works"?	The logs would track refills, bottle waste, and maintenance time. These are specific, measurable outcomes instead of a vague result.
4	What counterclaim does the writer address? Give one planned response to the cost concern and one planned response to the cleanup concern.	The counterclaim is that the station may cost too much and slow custodial staff. The school can request price quotes and compare costs with disposable cups. The facilities manager can record cleaning minutes and report leaks or litter.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should install a covered bicycle rack near the east entrance. Last Thursday, I counted 12 bicycles leaning against the library wall during a rainstorm. The rack's locking rails and paved drainage area would protect bicycles and keep the access route clear. Although installation costs money, the principal can compare contractor price quotes before choosing a design.

Accept equivalent wording when students identify the consistent claim, accurate evidence, and both parts of the counterclaim response. For Part 3, accept varied school improvements if the response has exactly four sentences, a clear claim, specific evidence, precise vocabulary, and a relevant response to a counterclaim.