

Refill Station Case

Track a claim, evidence, alternatives, and audience.

7.8.E “analyze characteristics and structures of argumentative text by: identifying the claim; explaining how the author uses various types of evidence and consideration of alternatives to support the argument...”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the author's claim, circle each piece of evidence, box the words that identify the audience, and number the sentence that names an alternative. Your marks should show how the writer builds an argument.

Water Within Reach

- ① To the Riverview School Board: our middle school should install water-refill stations in the cafeteria and near the gym before next year. Many students bring reusable bottles, but the few working fountains create lines between classes. A refill station would give students a quicker way to get drinking water and would make carrying a reusable bottle more practical. This change is not about banning bottled drinks. It is about making a healthy, lower-waste choice easier during the school day.
- ② In a March student council survey, 186 of 240 respondents said they would use a refill station at least twice a week. That result is local evidence, not a promise that every student would change habits. Our physical education teacher also reports that athletes often finish practice with empty bottles because the nearest fountain is across the building. The stations under consideration would dispense filtered tap water, so they could serve many students without requiring each person to buy a new plastic bottle.
- ③ Some board members may worry that stations cost too much or will need repairs. Keeping the current fountains is an option, but it does not solve the lines or provide places to fill bottles. The facilities manager received two price estimates and found that one station, including installation, would cost less than replacing the damaged scoreboard planned for the auxiliary gym. The board could begin with two stations, track their use for a semester, and decide later whether more are needed. Please add this practical improvement to next year's budget.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the author's main claim?

2 How do the student council survey and the physical education teacher's report support the claim?

3 What alternative does the author consider, and why does the author argue against it?

4 Who is the intended audience? Give one detail that shows this.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 4- to 5-sentence message to a school decision maker about one improvement you think the school should make. State a clear claim, use a numerical fact or survey result and a statement from a knowledgeable person, and consider one alternative or concern before ending with a request.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the author's claim, circle each piece of evidence, box the words that identify the audience, and number the sentence that names an alternative. Your marks should show how the writer builds an argument. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the author's main claim?	The middle school should install water-refill stations in the cafeteria and near the gym before next year.
2	How do the student council survey and the physical education teacher's report support the claim?	The survey provides numerical local evidence that many students would use stations, and the teacher's report gives an example of athletes needing water closer to the gym.
3	What alternative does the author consider, and why does the author argue against it?	The author considers keeping the current fountains, but argues that they do not solve the lines or give students places to fill bottles.
4	Who is the intended audience? Give one detail that shows this.	The intended audience is the Riverview School Board. The passage begins by addressing the board and asks it to add the project to next year's budget.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

To our principal, the school should add a covered bike rack near the main entrance. In a student travel survey, 42 students said they would ride more often if their bikes stayed dry during rain. The science teacher noted that riding or walking to school can reduce car trips for nearby families. A rack would cost money, and students could keep using the old rack, but it is far from the entrance and has no cover. Please include one covered rack in next year's facilities plan.

Accept equivalent statements of the claim, evidence, alternative, and audience when supported by the passage. For Part 3, accept varied school improvements if the response includes all required argument parts and addresses a clear decision maker.