Make Your Case

Study how a writer groups reasons and evidence in a persuasive paragraph.

5.W.1 "Modes and Purposes for Writing Write personal or fictional narratives in prose or poetic form that organize the writing around a central problem, conflict, or experience using descriptions or dialogue to develop the experience(s)..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the one sentence that states the writer's position. Circle the sentence in paragraph 2 that names an expert source, then write 1 beside the first reason and 2 beside the second reason.

A Refill Station for Lunch

1 At lunch, the recycling bin beside the cafeteria often fills with empty plastic water bottles. Some students bring reusable bottles, but others buy drinks when they forget one. **Our school should install a filtered water refill station near the cafeteria.** A station would give students an easy place to refill bottles before class, during lunch, or after recess.

2 First, the station could cut down on throwaway bottles. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency explains that reducing waste is better than managing waste after it is created. When students refill a bottle they already own, fewer bottles need to be collected, sorted, or thrown away. This choice could also keep the cafeteria area less crowded with containers at the end of lunch.

3 Second, a refill station could help students who forget a drink at home. The cafeteria already has sinks and water pipes nearby, so installation would not require digging across the playground. Students could use the station during lunch instead of waiting for a teacher to open a classroom sink. A bottle-filling counter could show how many refills the station provides.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's position?

2. What is the first reason for adding a refill station? Include the source-based fact that supports this reason.

3. How does paragraph 3 show that installing the station would be practical? Give two details from the paragraph.

4. Why are paragraphs 2 and 3 logically grouped?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five-sentence persuasive paragraph about one improvement your school should make. State a clear position, then give two reasons with a concrete detail or example for each reason.

ANSWER KEY

Make Your Case

GRADE 5 · 5.W.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the one sentence that states the writer's position. Circle the sentence in paragraph 2 that names an expert source, then write 1 beside the first reason and 2 beside the second reason. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's position?	**The school should install a filtered water refill station near the cafeteria.**
2	What is the first reason for adding a refill station? Include the source-based fact that supports this reason.	**The first reason is that the station could reduce throwaway bottles. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says reducing waste is better than managing it after it is created.**
3	How does paragraph 3 show that installing the station would be practical? Give two details from the paragraph.	**The cafeteria already has nearby sinks and water pipes, so workers would not need to dig across the playground. Students could use the station during lunch instead of waiting for a teacher to open a classroom sink.**
4	Why are paragraphs 2 and 3 logically grouped?	**Each paragraph develops a different reason. Paragraph 2 focuses on reducing bottle waste, and paragraph 3 focuses on helping students get water and on practical installation details.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a covered bike rack near the front entrance. On rainy mornings, students leave wet bikes against the fence, where they can block the walkway. A rack with a roof would keep bikes together and make the path safer. It would also protect seats and chains from rain, so families could use bikes more often. The rack could be placed beside the existing sidewalk, where students already park scooters.

Accept equivalent wording for the position, reasons, and supporting details when it matches the passage. For the writing task, accept varied school improvements if the response has five sentences, a clear position, two reasons, and a concrete detail or example for each reason.