

Make the Case

Notice how a writer groups reasons and evidence to support a claim.

6.W.1.C "Write persuasively about topics or texts, including media messages, supporting well-defined claims with clear reasons and evidence that are logically grouped."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's claim. Circle each piece of evidence, then write 1 and 2 beside the two reasons that support the claim.

A Later Library Hour

- ① Our town library should stay open until 7:00 p.m. one additional weekday each week. Right now, it closes at 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, so many students cannot visit after school activities or family work schedules. An evening hour would give more residents a fair chance to borrow books, use computers, and get help from librarians. The library board should test this change on Wednesdays for one semester and review the results before deciding whether to continue it.
- ② First, later hours would help students complete schoolwork. The library has free internet access, reference materials, and staff members who can help visitors find reliable sources. In a 2024 survey of 126 students at our middle school, 74 students said they had needed a quiet place to work after 5:00 p.m. At present, those students must work at home or travel to another location. A Wednesday evening session would meet a need that the survey clearly shows.
- ③ Second, an extra evening would make the library more useful to working families. Adults could pick up holds, print documents, or help children choose books without leaving work early. The American Library Association reports that public libraries provide access to technology, information, and community services. Keeping the building open one more hour would extend access to those services when more families are available. Because the plan is limited to one day and one semester, the board can measure attendance before making a permanent decision.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the writer's main claim?

2 What is the first reason for the claim, and what survey evidence supports it?

3 How does the American Library Association information support the writer's second reason?

4 How are the reasons and evidence organized across the passage?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a realistic change your school should make. Write two paragraphs, 90 to 120 words total, with a clear claim, two different reasons, and at least one specific piece of evidence for each reason. Group each reason with its evidence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's claim. Circle each piece of evidence, then write 1 and 2 beside the two reasons that support the claim. 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 town library should stay open until 7:00 p.m. on one additional weekday each week.
2	What is the first reason for the claim, and what survey evidence supports it?	Later hours would help students complete schoolwork. In a survey of 126 students, 74 said they had needed a quiet place to work after 5:00 p.m.
3	How does the American Library Association information support the writer's second reason?	It shows that libraries provide technology, information, and community services, so an extra evening hour would give working families more access to those services.
4	How are the reasons and evidence organized across the passage?	The first paragraph states the claim and proposed plan. The second paragraph gives a reason and evidence about students, and the third paragraph gives a reason and evidence about working families.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should install a covered bicycle rack near the main entrance. A rack would make biking to school easier and safer. During a five-day count, the environmental club found 18 bicycles locked to fences or railings, where they can block walkways. A rack with enough spaces would give riders one clear place to lock their bikes and keep entrances open. A covered rack would also protect bicycles from rain and encourage more students to ride. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that physical activity helps children and adolescents build strong bones and muscles. The principal should survey students and choose a site away from bus lanes. This change would serve current and future riders.

Accept equivalent statements of the claim, reasons, evidence, and organization that match the passage. For the writing task, accept any realistic school change with a clear claim, two logically grouped reasons, and specific relevant evidence for each reason.