



ELA Virtual Learning

7th Grade ELA

April 10, 2020



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Lesson: April 10, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- Evaluate an author's argument, accessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.
- Write responses using complete sentences with standard spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Warm Up: The Difference between Fact and Opinion

FACT & OPINION

A statement that
can be **PROVEN**

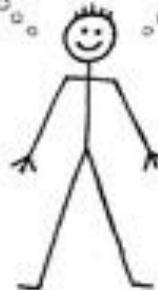
A statement that
says what someone
THINKS or **FEELS**

Apples grow
on trees.

Apples
taste good.

Key **FACT** words:

Dates
Science
Numbers
Historical events
Nonfictions



Key **OPINION** words:

Believe	Think
Most	Should
Good	Feel
Bad	Might
Never	Always

Warm Up Continued: How do we decide what types of statements can be used to support an argument?

Evidence in an argument essay should be based on fact.

Click on the link below to practice. Decide which statements are the best evidence to support the argument.

[Houghton Mifflin Support: Reasons and Evidence](#)

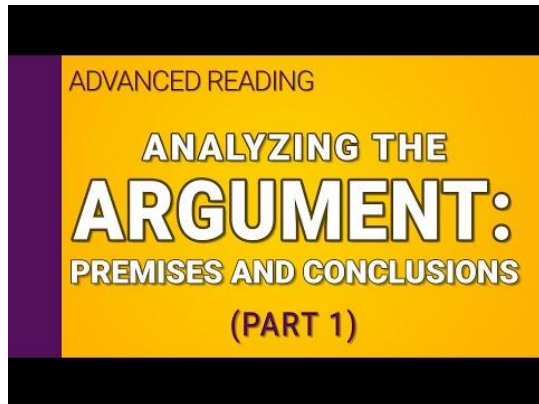


Learn

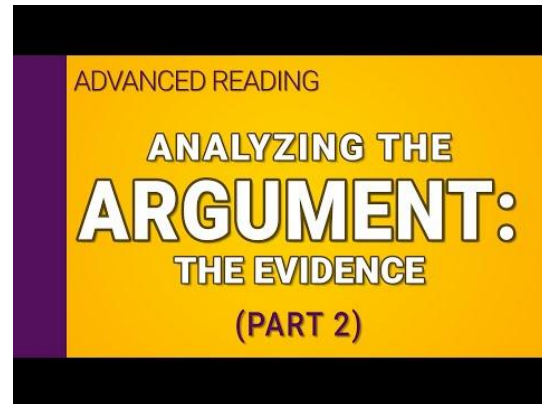
Evaluating the Argument:

Watch these videos to learn about evaluating the argument. Don't just take what the author has to say - read critically and closely to determine if the author is really backing up the claim with relevant and accurate information!

Video 1



Video 2



Learn Con't

Read this paragraph:

Social media sites help students do better at school. 59% of students with access to the Internet report that they use social media to discuss educational topics and 50% use the sites to talk about school assignments. After George Middle School in Portland, Oregon, introduced a social media program to engage students, grades went up by 50%, chronic absenteeism went down by 33%, and 20% of students school-wide voluntarily completed extra-credit assignments. A Jan. 2015 study published in the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology* said college freshman should use social networking sites to build networks of new friends, feel socially integrated at their new schools, and reduce their risk of dropping out.

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What is the claim the author is making?

Social media sites help students do better at school.

Is there evidence to back up the claim? If so, what is the evidence?

Yes, there is evidence.

- 59% of students with access to the Internet report that they use social media to discuss educational topics and 50% use the sites to talk about school assignments.
- After George Middle School in Portland, Oregon, introduced a social media program to engage students, grades went up by 50%, chronic absenteeism went down by 33%, and 20% of students school-wide voluntarily completed extra-credit assignments.
- A Jan. 2015 study published in the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology* said college freshman should use social networking sites to build networks of new friends, feel socially integrated at their new schools, and reduce their risk of dropping out.

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Is this evidence relevant? Is it sufficient?

59% of students with access to the Internet report that they use social media to discuss educational topics and 50% use the sites to talk about school assignments. After George Middle School in Portland, Oregon, introduced a social media program to engage students, grades went up by 50%, chronic absenteeism went down by 33%, and 20% of students school-wide voluntarily completed extra-credit assignments.

This information is relevant, but... 59% of what students? Not all students in the world could have been surveyed! How many were surveyed? Were the participants from different places around the world or in one area?

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This last statement doesn't speak to how social media helps students do better in school, but that social media can play a role in keeping college freshman from dropping out of college.

A Jan. 2015 study published in the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology* said college freshman should use social networking sites to build networks of new friends, feel socially integrated at their new schools, and reduce their risk of dropping out.

Don't discount this information entirely. It is good information. Most of the evidence given is relevant and points to social media helping students do better in school. Be sure to read closely and critically!

Practice:

- Read the two argumentative articles. Be sure to use the close reading strategies as you read.
→ [Should Schools Get Rid of Sports?](#)
- Fill in the graphic organizer for the above article for both sides of the argument about sports in school.
→ [Tracing an Author's Argument](#)



If you want to learn more...Additional Resources:

- ★ Here is an [article](#) over concussions in school athletes.
- ★ Here is an [article](#) about Andrew Luck and youth sports.

