

# ELA Virtual Learning

# Grade 8/Listening

May 6, 2020

Lesson: 05/06/20

## Objective/Learning Target:

**I can determine and evaluate a speaker's claim, evidence, and counterclaim.**

# WARM UP

## Quick Write:

- Get out a piece of notebook paper
- Use your timer on your phone or work near a clock
- Write for 3 minutes without stopping



## Your Topic:

If you had the chance to save an entire animal species from extinction, would you, or would you walk away? (think about what might be needed to save them...money/time/studying the animals/keeping them in cages, etc.)

**3. 2. 1. GO...WRITE!**

# LEARN

How does an author get their point across in writing? They must be clear and concise! Writers do this by stating a *claim* and a *counterclaim*.

*What does it mean to state a claim?*  
*What is a counterclaim?*



Underneath your Quick Write, add these notes & example:

**Author's Claim:** an author's main idea or opinion which he/she will later support with evidence.

**Counterclaim:** this is the opposite of the claim

**Example:**

**Claim:** Pitbulls are dangerous animals and should be outlawed as pets.

**Counterclaim:** Pitbulls are safe animals and make great pets.

# PRACTICE WITH INDEPENDENT WORK

In this Ted Talk titled, “Why We Need Zoos” Gabriela Mastromonaco speaks passionately about her thoughts and opinions on Zoos.

Before you watch the video:

- Click on the white CC icon (closed caption).
- Get out a new piece of notebook paper
- Create a chart on your paper. (example on next slide)



# PRACTICE WITH INDEPENDENT WORK



Claim	Counterclaim	Evidence to support the claim (reasons she thinks zoos are beneficial)

## Suggested Answers: PRACTICE WITH INDEPENDENT WORK



Claim	Counterclaim	Evidence to support the claim (reasons she thinks zoos are beneficial)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zoos are important, not just for entertainment reasons but because they are vital to the future of animals.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It's not ideal to keep animals out of their natural habitats.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zoos help care for and breed animals that have been wiped out in the wild.</li><li>• Zoos can store genetic materials such as sperm and eggs that can be used in the future.</li><li>• Marmots, Black Footed Ferrets, and Wood Bison populations in the wild have increased because of her zoo.</li></ul>

# Independent Practice Continued...

Mastromonaco ends her talk by challenging her audience to take action. What are 4 things she suggests her audience should do?

1.

2.

3.

4.

This *Call to Action* will cause her audience to think more deeply about her topic and cause them to support her claim that zoos are important and vital to the future of animals.



## *Suggested Answers:* **Independent Practice Continued...**

### *Call to Action Suggestions:*

1. Change habits
2. Avoid using bottled water
3. Eat locally grown foods
4. Learn more about animals
5. Plant a tree
6. Get involved in your community

# Independent Practice Continued...

Now let's put it all together:

Using your notes from the Ted Talk, create a summary at the bottom, or back, of your notes. Use complete sentences and remember to include the following:

- Claim
- Counterclaim
- Evidence to support
- Call to Action

\*\*\*to make your writing sound scholarly, add a transition or two!

## Suggested Answers: **Independent Practice Continued...**

*In the Ted Talk titled, “Why We Need Zoos”, Gabriela Mastromonaco explains why she thinks zoos are important. She claims that while zoos are entertaining they are also vital to future animals. (claim) To support this she states that zoos help care for and breed animals that have been wiped out in the wild. In addition, she explains that zoos store genetic material such as sperm and egg that can be used in the future. Lastly, the Toronto Zoo, where she works, has helped rehabilitate Marmots, Black Footed Ferrets, and Wood Bison. (3 supporting details) Mastromonaco understands that there may be people out there who think that zoos are not an ideal place to keep animals because it keeps them out of their natural habitat. (counterclaim) However, she challenges people to think differently about zoos and conservation in general by suggesting they avoid buy bottled water, they eat locally grown foods, and learn about animals they are interested. (call to action)*

## Additional Resources

[Click here](#) to read more about Gabriela Mastromonaco's zoo where she works in Toronto, Canada. You can also check out the video to watch a quick rundown of their accomplishments.

