

# Argument Writing: Claims, Reasons, and Evidence

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

Focus on argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence. Strong test answers are precise, purposeful, and supported by the wording of the task.

## PRACTICE

Answer each question. Choose the best answer for multiple-choice items and write complete short responses.

- Which choice BEST demonstrates argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence?
  - Everyone knows tutoring is good, so the school should do it.
  - The school should expand peer tutoring because attendance records show tutored students missed fewer assignments and reported greater confidence.
  - Peer tutoring is fun and some students like it.
  - Tutoring should happen because I personally enjoyed it last year.
- Which revision best applies argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence? Original: The city should build bike lanes because bikes are nice.
  - The city should build protected bike lanes because crash reports show three of the busiest routes also have the highest number of bicycle injuries.
  - The city should build bike lanes because bikes are nice.
  - Everyone knows tutoring is good, so the school should do it.
  - Peer tutoring is fun and some students like it.
- A student is working on this task: A student is arguing for later library hours. Which choice would be MOST effective?
  - Everyone knows tutoring is good, so the school should do it.
  - Peer tutoring is fun and some students like it.
  - Use library sign-in data and student survey results to show need.
  - Tutoring should happen because I personally enjoyed it last year.
- Which explanation best describes why the stronger choice works?
  - It is longer than the other choices, so it must be better.
  - It uses complicated words even if they do not fit.
  - It avoids evidence so the reader can decide alone.
  - It is specific, relevant to the task, and controlled by argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence.



- 5. Which next step would most strengthen the student's work?
  - A. Add an unrelated personal story.
  - B. Address the counterclaim that staffing costs may increase.
  - C. Replace precise words with vague ones.
  - D. Remove the clearest evidence.
- 6. Which mistake should the student avoid?
  - A. Relying on popularity instead of evidence.
  - B. Checking that each choice fits the audience.
  - C. Using evidence that directly supports the point.
  - D. Rereading the sentence after revising it.
- 7. Which answer is too vague to earn full credit?
  - A. It works because it applies argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence to the exact task.
  - B. It is stronger because the evidence is relevant and sufficient.
  - C. It is better because it sounds good.
  - D. It improves clarity without changing the meaning.
- 8. Which habit best supports accuracy on this type of question?
  - A. Choose the first familiar word.
  - B. Ignore the audience and purpose.
  - C. Pick the longest answer every time.
  - D. Read the whole sentence or task before choosing an answer.
- 9. Write one claim and two evidence-based reasons for a school policy argument.  

---

---
- 10. Explain why a counterclaim makes an argument stronger when it is answered fairly.  

---

---



## Answer Keys

<p>1 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>5 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p>	<p>6 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>7 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>8 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>9 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p> <p>10 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p>
---	--

Explanations	
<b>1. B</b>	The correct choice demonstrates argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence clearly and precisely.
<b>2. A</b>	The revision improves the original while preserving its intended meaning.
<b>3. C</b>	The correct choice fits the task and gives the writer or speaker a concrete move to make.
<b>4. D</b>	Length and difficult vocabulary do not make an answer strong; relevance and control do.
<b>5. B</b>	The best next step improves clarity, support, or control of the skill.
<b>6. A</b>	The correct answer names a common error that weakens this skill.
<b>7. C</b>	A test response must explain the reason, not merely praise the answer.
<b>8. D</b>	Careful reading prevents attractive but wrong choices.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Strong answers should explicitly use argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence, stay specific, and explain the reason for the choice. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Strong answers should include a corrected example or explanation that preserves meaning while improving argument writing with a clear claim and relevant evidence. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.



## Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other West Virginia WVGSA ELA Test Books!



### West Virginia WVGSA Grade 8 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

*No repeated questions — maximum practice value!*

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

*Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books*

26 Tests!  
4 Books  
One Bundle

**Important:** All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

<h4>5 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ Perfect foundation for WVGSA ELA prep</li> <li>✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills</li> <li>✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Start your practice journey!</p>	<h4>6 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from the 5 tests book</li> <li>✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests</li> <li>✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Take your practice to the next level!</p>	<h4>7 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5 and 6 tests books</li> <li>✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice</li> <li>✓ Aligned to Grade 8 WVGSA ELA standards</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Maximum preparation power!</p>	<h4>8 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5, 6 and 7 books</li> <li>✓ Great for final review before test day</li> <li>✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white;">Be fully prepared!</p>
---	--	---	---

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.