Author Point of View and Conflicting Evidence

Name: _____	Date: _____	Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

A strong author often acknowledges opposing evidence and then responds to it. Identify both the author's position and the way the response is handled.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

School Start Times: A Complicated Change

Many sleep researchers argue that middle schools should start later because adolescent sleep cycles shift naturally. Students who sleep longer tend to show better attention, mood, and attendance.

The author acknowledges that later starts create real problems. Bus routes may need to change, after-school sports can run later, and families may have to adjust work schedules.

However, the author argues that those problems are logistical rather than biological. Districts that pilot later starts can redesign bus tiers, coordinate athletic schedules, and survey families before making permanent changes.

The article concludes that inconvenience should be weighed honestly, but it should not be treated as stronger evidence than research on student health and learning.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage to answer each question. Choose the best answer and support short responses with evidence.

1. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports the inference that The author supports later school start times while recognizing practical objections.?

A. Students who sleep longer tend to show better attention.

B. The author acknowledges that later starts create real problems.

C. Many sleep researchers argue that middle schools should start later.

D. The article concludes that inconvenience should be weighed honestly.

2. Which statement BEST expresses the central idea or theme of the passage?

A. The author argues for later school starts by weighing practical challenges against research on adolescent health and learning.

B. The author believes sports are more important than sleep.

C. The author says families should not be consulted.

D. The author rejects all evidence from sleep researchers.

3. What does the word 'logistical' most nearly mean as it is used in the passage?

   A. based on emotion

   B. scientifically impossible

   C. related to planning and organization

   D. caused by weather

4. How does the structure or key detail identified in the passage contribute to meaning?

   A. Paragraph 2 proves the author has changed sides.

   B. Paragraph 3 ignores every objection.

   C. The conclusion says evidence is unnecessary.

   D. Paragraph 2 acknowledges the opposing view before paragraph 3 responds with possible solutions.

5. Which conclusion is BEST supported by the whole passage?

   A. The author mocks anyone who disagrees.

   B. The author treats counterarguments seriously but argues they can be managed.

   C. The author believes objections are stronger than research.

   D. The author avoids taking a position.

6. Which choice is the BEST objective summary of the passage?

   A. The passage presents an author who favors later school starts, acknowledges scheduling concerns, and responds that planning can address them.

   B. The passage argues that later starts have no drawbacks at all.

   C. The passage recommends ending sports to improve sleep.

   D. The passage says school schedules are unrelated to learning.

7. Which answer should be rejected because it goes beyond what the passage supports?

   A. The author argues for later school starts by weighing practical challenges against research on adolescent health and learning.

   B. The author treats counterarguments seriously but argues they can be managed.

   C. The author believes sports are more important than sleep.

   D. Paragraph 2 acknowledges the opposing view before paragraph 3 responds with possible solutions.

8. Which detail would be MOST useful to quote in a written response about the passage?

   A. Students who sleep longer tend to show better attention.

   B. Many sleep researchers argue that middle schools should start later.

   C. The article concludes that inconvenience should be weighed honestly.

   D. The author acknowledges that later starts create real problems.

9. In 2-3 sentences, explain how one quoted detail supports the idea that The author supports later school start times while recognizing practical objections..

_____

_____

10. Write a one-sentence analysis of the passage's message or main idea. Then name one detail that supports it.

_____

_____

Answer Keys

1	A	**B**	C	D	6	**A**	B	C	D
2	**A**	B	C	D	7	A	B	**C**	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	B	C	**D**
4	A	B	C	**D**	9	See below			
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			

Explanations

1. B	The correct evidence directly proves the stated inference rather than merely mentioning the same topic.
2. A	The correct answer covers the whole passage, while the distractors are too narrow, too extreme, or unsupported.
3. C	The context around the word points to this meaning in this passage.
4. D	The correct answer explains the role the detail plays in the development of the text.
5. B	The correct conclusion follows from multiple details, not from a single isolated word.
6. A	A strong summary includes the main conflict or idea and the outcome without personal opinion.
7. C	This choice overstates or invents an idea that the passage does not prove.
8. D	This detail is specific enough to support analysis in a written response.
9.	**Answer:** A strong response quotes or closely paraphrases: The author acknowledges that later starts create real problems. Then it explains how that detail proves the inference instead of only repeating it. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
10.	**Answer:** A strong response states: The author argues for later school starts by weighing practical challenges against research on adolescent health and learning. It supports the statement with a precise detail such as: The author acknowledges that later starts create real problems. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.

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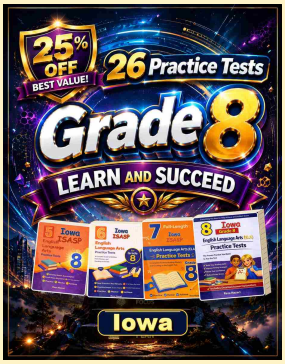

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