

Natural Resources Line of Inquiry

Lesson 2

Name: _____

Title of Article: _____

1. What is the author's main claim? Write a direct quote from the text.

Remember, a claim is an assertion of something as fact. It is often no longer than one or two sentences. It can show up at the very beginning of the text, the end of the first paragraph, or at the very end, in the conclusion.

2. What evidence does the author use to support their claim? Write three direct quotes from the text.

Remember, evidence is what the author includes to try to prove their claim. Types of evidence include factual, statistics or data, examples or anecdotes, expert testimony, logical reasoning, and emotional appeal.

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3. How valid do you believe the author's argument is? Why?

If an argument includes more emotional appeal and anecdotal evidence than factual and statistical evidence, it is typically considered to be not as valid. You may begin your answer with, "I believe the argument is valid because ..." OR "I believe the argument is not valid because ..."

4. How well supported do you believe the author's argument is? Why?

If an argument includes evidence that is relevant and related to the author's claim, it is typically considered to be well supported. If evidence is irrelevant or not directly related to the author's claim, it is typically considered to be not as well supported. You may begin your answer with, "I believe the argument is well supported because ..." OR "I believe the argument is not well supported because ..."

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5. Now that you know some facts about the use of natural resources, try your hand at writing your own paragraph that presents an argument about how you believe natural resources should be used. Use at least two pieces of evidence from the text you read to support your argument.

Start with your claim, include direct quotes from the argument you read, and present other evidence about natural resources from class discussions or what you learned from Lesson 1.