

Natural Resources for Energy

Lesson 2

Locating and Writing Claims and Evidence

Learning Goals

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- Know the difference between **claims** and **evidence**.
- Locate the **claims** and **evidence** in an argument on **renewable resources**.
- Examine the **validity** of an author's **reasoning** in an article.
- Write a paragraph that includes a **claim** and **evidence** about **renewable or nonrenewable** resources.



Listen



Watch

Your Background Knowledge

Who remembers some examples of **natural resources** from Lesson 1?



Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

Your Background Knowledge

Who remembers some examples of **renewable resources** from Lesson 1?



Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

Your Background Knowledge

Who remembers some examples of **nonrenewable resources** from Lesson 1?



Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

What is a Claim?

- The GED® defines a **claim** as *an assertion of something as fact*.
 - An *assertion* is a statement made in an argument.
- Every well-constructed argument has a claim.
- The claim is often no longer than one or two sentences. It can show up at the very beginning of the text or end of the first paragraph. It also sometimes shows up in the conclusion, at the end of the text.
- In your GED® or HiSET® essay you will need to include a claim that states which of two articles you are given presents the best argument.



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What is Evidence?

- The GED defines **evidence** as *that which tends to prove or disprove something; grounds for belief*.
 - *Grounds for belief* is an idiom that means a basis for belief.
- Every well-constructed argument includes multiple types of evidence.
- Types of evidence include factual, statistics or data, examples or anecdotes, expert testimony, logical reasoning, and emotional appeal.
- In your GED® or HiSET® essay, you will need to include evidence from the texts that supports your claim.



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Claim vs. Evidence – What's the Difference?

View the Sample Completed Organizer. Once you're done reading, think about the following questions. Be ready to talk about them with a partner.

- How is the claim different from the samples of evidence in the third column?
- What do you think the topic of the press release was?
- What types of evidence have you seen used in other arguments you've read or watched? In what context(s) did you see them used?

Talk with your partner/small group and be ready to share with the class.



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Let's Practice

- We will now work together on a short quiz that will let us practice telling the difference between claims and evidence.
- Remember, a **claim** is *an assertion of something as fact*.
- **Evidence** is *that which tends to prove or disprove something; grounds for belief*.



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Claim or Evidence?

“Mining activities can result in water pollution and ecosystem destruction.”

- A. Statistics or data evidence
- B. Claim
- C. Emotional appeal evidence
- D. Expert testimony evidence



Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“Mining activities can result in water pollution and ecosystem destruction.”

A. Statistics or data evidence

B. Claim

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D. Expert testimony evidence



Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“Data from the Appalachian Voices organization show that mountaintop removal mining in the Appalachian region has led to the burial of over 2,000 miles of streams, impacting water quality and aquatic life.”

- A. Statistics or data evidence
- B. Claim
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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“The director of the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) stated in her report that air pollution from the burning of fossil fuels can contribute to respiratory illnesses.”

- A. Factual evidence
- B. Example or anecdotal evidence
- C. Claim
- D. Expert testimony evidence



Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“The director of the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) stated in her report that air pollution from the burning of fossil fuels can contribute to respiratory illnesses.”

- A. Factual evidence
- B. Example or anecdotal evidence
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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“The burning of fossil fuels is the primary cause of air pollution.”

- A. Emotional appeal evidence
- B. Example or anecdotal evidence
- C. Claim
- D. Expert testimony evidence



Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“The burning of fossil fuels is the primary cause of air pollution.”

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- B. Example or anecdotal evidence
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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“Investing in mining and fossil fuels boosts economies.”

- A. Emotional appeal evidence
- B. Example or anecdotal evidence
- C. Claim
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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“When a country decreases its dependence on other countries for energy resources such as coal and natural gas, its own economy is strengthened.”

- A. Expert testimony evidence
- B. Statistics or data evidence
- C. Logical reasoning evidence
- D. Claim



Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“Imagine a world where our children and grandchildren can breathe clean air, enjoy untouched natural landscapes, and live without the fear of worsening climate disasters.”

- A. Emotional appeal evidence
- B. Factual evidence
- C. Logical reasoning evidence
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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

Claim or Evidence?

“Transitioning to green energy is not just an environmental necessity; it’s a moral imperative.”

- A. Expert testimony evidence
- B. Statistics or data evidence
- C. Logical reasoning evidence
- D. Claim



Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

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Work by yourself.
Answer the questions.

What is Validity of Evidence?

- As you can see, evidence can take many shapes.
- Some evidence is more factual, logical, or statistical. Other evidence is more anecdotal or emotional.
- As a rule, evidence that has been factually proven is more valid. This means factual, statistical, and logical evidence tends to be regarded as more valid than anecdotal and emotional evidence.
- When it comes to evidence, FACTS are more valid than OPINIONS.



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Validity of Evidence

Can you think of a time when you noticed evidence being used in an argument that was not valid?

What was the claim of the argument? What made the evidence invalid?



Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

Finding Claims and Evidence in Arguments

- Remember, the use of nonrenewable and renewable natural resources is a highly debated topic.
- Many authors (who may also be scientists, politicians, businesspeople or concerned citizens) write arguments about how they believe natural resources should be used.
- For this part of the lesson:
 1. Together, we will read arguments about how natural resources should be used.
 2. Together, we will practice finding claims and evidence in the arguments.
 3. You will evaluate independently how valid you think the author's evidence and reasoning is.
 4. You will type paragraphs summarizing the claim, evidence, and validity of the arguments.



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Share - Questions

Did you locate a claim and evidence in your article? Share them.

Did the location of your claim surprise you? Why or why not?

What kinds of evidence did you find?



Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

Share - Questions

How valid, or well supported, did you believe the author's argument was in your article? Why?



Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

Share - Questions

Who would like to read their paragraph about how natural resources should be used?



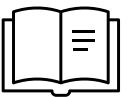
Raise your hand.
Talk to the class.

Independent Practice

Now, you will practice independently identifying claims and evidence, and then you will write a paragraph that includes your own claim and evidence.

What you will need:

- “The Benefits of Biofuels” text
- Identifying Claims and Evidence Worksheet



Read

Reflection

Can you:

- Tell the difference between a **claim** and **evidence**?
- Locate the **claims** and **evidence** in an argument on **renewable resources**?
- Examine the **validity** of an author's **reasoning** in an article?

Write a paragraph that includes a **claim** and **evidence** about **renewable or nonrenewable** resources?



Listen



Think



Ask the teacher if you
have questions