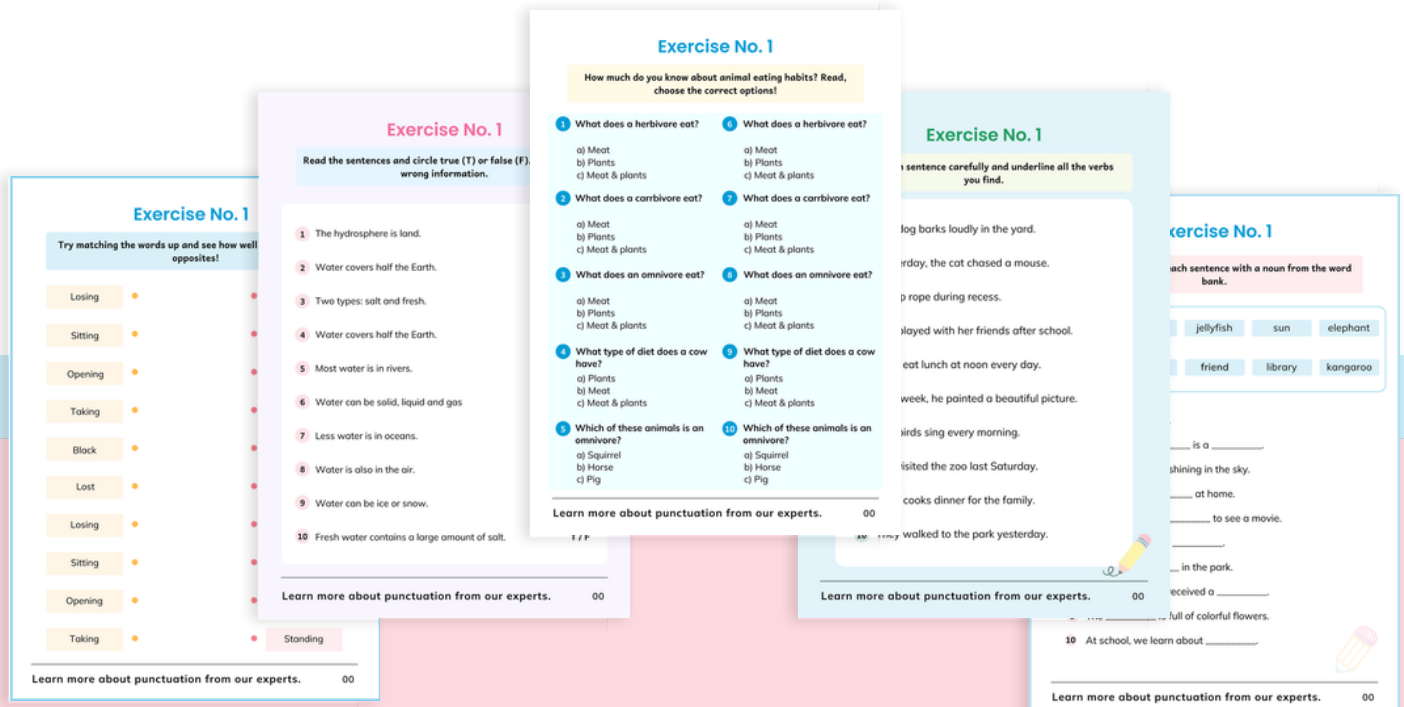




Grade 8

Literature Skills - Evaluating Author's Argument

Engaging exercises to build strong grammar skills



The collage features several overlapping exercise cards:

- Exercise No. 1 (Top Left):** "Try matching the words up and see how well opposites!" with a list of words: Losing, Sitting, Opening, Taking, Black, Lost, Losing, Sitting, Opening, Taking.
- Exercise No. 1 (Middle Left):** "Read the sentences and circle true (T) or false (F), wrong information." with 10 statements about Earth, water, and air.
- Exercise No. 1 (Center):** "How much do you know about animal eating habits? Read, choose the correct options!" with 10 multiple-choice questions about herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores.
- Exercise No. 1 (Middle Right):** "Read each sentence carefully and underline all the verbs you find." with a paragraph about a dog, a cat, and a boy.
- Exercise No. 1 (Bottom Right):** "Match each sentence with a noun from the word bank." with a word bank containing: jellyfish, sun, elephant, friend, library, kangaroo.

Learn more about this topic from our experts.

Grade 8



Literature Skills – Evaluating Author’s Argument

What’s Inside

- ✓ Multiple Choice Question
- ✓ Match the Following
- ✓ True and False
- ✓ Sort the Words
- ✓ Short Answer Type

By Mohsina M

The Homework Debate

A student writer created an essay arguing that schools should reduce the amount of homework given to students each day. In the essay, he explained that excessive homework can cause stress, reduce free time, and make students feel mentally exhausted after long school hours. He also claimed that students need more time for hobbies, sports, family activities, and proper rest to maintain a healthy balance in life. To support his argument, the writer included examples of students who struggled to complete large amounts of homework while managing other responsibilities. He mentioned that some students stay awake late at night finishing assignments and feel tired during classes the next day. Although his reasons sounded believable and relatable, some of his points lacked strong evidence such as surveys, expert opinions, or scientific studies. The writer mostly relied on personal experiences and general statements instead of using facts to strengthen his claims. Readers began to question whether the problem affected all students equally or only certain groups of learners. Some readers agreed with the essay because the examples felt realistic, while others believed the argument needed stronger proof before they could fully accept it. By evaluating the writer's claims, reasons, and evidence, readers learn the importance of thinking critically about how convincing an author's argument truly is.

Exercise No. 1

Choose the best answer about the writer's argument.

- 1** What does the writer want schools to do?
 - a) Build more libraries
 - b) Reduce homework
 - c) Add longer classes
- 2** Why does the writer support less homework?
 - a) Students need more sleep
 - b) Schools need more buses
 - c) Teachers need uniforms
- 3** What weakens some points in the essay?
 - a) Strong characters
 - b) Lack of evidence
 - c) Funny examples
- 4** What should readers evaluate in the essay?
 - a) The writer's handwriting
 - b) The strength of arguments
 - c) The classroom size
- 5** Which detail supports the writer's opinion?
 - a) Homework causes stress
 - b) Lunch should be earlier
 - c) Classrooms need paint
- 6** What is one purpose of examples in arguments?
 - a) To confuse readers
 - b) To support claims
 - c) To decorate pages
- 7** Why should arguments include evidence?
 - a) To make ideas stronger
 - b) To lengthen essays
 - c) To add pictures
- 8** What kind of essay is described in the story?
 - a) Mystery essay
 - b) Debate essay
 - c) Poetry essay
- 9** What must readers do while reading arguments?
 - a) Memorize every line
 - b) Think critically
 - c) Draw cartoons
- 10** What is the main claim in the essay?
 - a) Schools should ban sports
 - b) Should reduce homework
 - c) Students should wear hats

Exercise No. 2

Match each argument detail with its correct support.

Main claim ●	●	Readers examine ideas
Examples ●	●	Too few facts
Weak evidence ●	●	Essay with arguments
Critical reading ●	●	Students feel pressure
Homework stress ●	●	Main idea of essay
Supporting reason ●	●	Proof for claims
Writer's opinion ●	●	Looks at strengths
School homework ●	●	Opinion about homework
Debate essay ●	●	Reasons and examples
Reader's role ●	●	Homework given by schools

Exercise No. 3

Read each statement and decide if it is true or false.

- 1 The writer argues for less homework. T / F
- 2 The essay is about cooking food. T / F
- 3 Some arguments lack strong evidence. T / F
- 4 Readers should ignore weak points. T / F
- 5 The writer gives reasons for opinions. T / F
- 6 Examples can support arguments. T / F
- 7 The story describes a debate essay. T / F
- 8 All points in the essay are perfect. T / F
- 9 Critical thinking helps readers evaluate arguments. T / F
- 10 The writer wants more homework for students. T / F

Exercise No. 4

Sort the words into claims or supporting details.

- Reduce homework
- Homework stress
- Writer's opinion
- Strong evidence
- Reasons given
- Examples used
- Critical reading
- Main claim
- Support details
- Weak points

Claims

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-

Supporting Details

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Exercise No. 5

Answer the questions about evaluating arguments.

1 Why do some readers question the essay's argument?

2 How do examples help the writer support ideas?

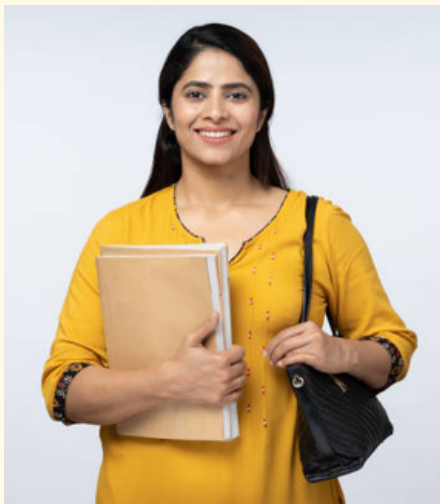
3 Why is critical thinking important while reading arguments?

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 - ✓ Grade 8 : Comparing Characters Across Texts
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