Directions: Read the descriptions below and identify whether it is a form of persuasion or reason. Put a check on the appropriate box.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DESCRIPTION** | **PERSUASIVE WRITING** | **ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING** |
| 1. Writer starts with a strong opinion and researches reasons to support it | ✓ |  |
| 2. Writer starts with a topic, researches and discusses all sides of the issue, and  chooses one side to support |  | ✓ |
| 3. Appeals to readers with logic | ✓ | ✓ |
| 4. Appeals to readers with evidence | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5. Appeals to readers with emotion | ✓ |  |
| 6. Outlines multiple sides of the issue |  | ✓ |
| 7. Calls readers to action | ✓ |  |
| 8. Uses passionate, urgent writing voice | ✓ |  |
| 9. Uses calm, neutral writing voice |  | ✓ |

**Let Us Inspect!**

**Direction:** Read this sample position paper and identify the stand/reasons of the writer. Use the reading guide provided for to facilitate better understanding of the paper. Use the template below.

**Sample Position Paper**

**SHOULD HOMEWORK BE MANDATORY?**

I can almost see many students nodding along with me as I ask this question. Younger generations overloaded with home tasks and numerous assignments have already raised this issue many times.

Yet, homework remains mandatory.

Is it fair or should it be cancelled?

I believe that homework should not be viewed as a mandatory part of education for several reasons.

First, children spend seven hours every single work day at school. That is a huge chunk of life, and with homework added on top of these hours, a child is left with no time to live his life to the fullest, socialize, or grow in other areas.

Second, sitting at your desk solving problems does no good to your health. Kids need time to get outside and have some fun, join a football league, or ride their bikes with friends around the block. Otherwise, **children will be very smart but surprisingly weak physically**.

Another argument against this position is that homework is not always the best way to obtain knowledge quality-wise. Students tend to ask their parents or siblings for help whenever facing difficulties. Busy parents not always willing to spend extra time explaining school material to their little one solve the problems themselves aiming to have more time for family, not lessons. As a result, the child will have the homework done. But that’s really not his work. So, the whole idea of dedicating time to self-education is lost here.

Finally, knowing that after classes you would still have to work at home makes a kid less concentrated at school. This results in **short attention spans and difficulty to concentrate on something for too long.**

All in all, homework should rather be an option. Students understanding that they are left behind at some subjects will take their time to go over the material at home. However, in other cases, they should have time after school for other activities.

Reading Guide

Identify the following:

Position paper’s topic/Issue: Should homework be mandatory?

Evidences/Reasons:

* Homework should not be mandatory since children spend seven hours every single work day at school.
* Homework should not be mandatory for the reason that sitting at your desk solving problems does no good to your health and kids need time to get outside and have some fun.
* Homework should not be mandatory because homework makes a kid less concentrated at school which can lead to short attention spans and difficulty to concentrate on something for too long.

Call for action/Solution:

Homework should rather be an option. Students understanding that they are left behind at some subjects will take their time to go over the material at home. However, in other cases, they should have time after school for other activities.

**Let Us Reflect!**

When do you think is the most important time to make a position paper? Why?

Position paper is an article or essay that offers an argumentative viewpoint on a subject of a person. These are often presented in a variety of fields, including academics, politics, law, and the like. Since the aim of a position paper is to persuade the audience that your viewpoint is true and worthy of consideration, it is best to write a position paper especially when there is an arguable issue, topic, or problem that is worth identifying the evidences and issues that can possibly prove a stand—either on the positive or vice versa. Hence, when it comes to choosing a particular topic or subject, creating your case, and organizing your article, the ideas that you are to evaluate and consider need to be thoroughly examined.

**Let Us Achieve!**

Directions: From the issues listed below, choose one (1) to work on to develop into a position paper. Second, do some researching/reading to gather information. Third, defend your stand by writing a position paper with the intention of convincing your reader to support your stand.

#### List of Issues:

Online Classes among Public Schools Students Curfew among Minors

Community Lockdown Government

Funds Distribution Cyber Bullying

Online Classes among Public Schools Students

**Introduction**

* Catchy Topic sentence
* Your Position about the issue

Distance learning─ an outward proof that distinguishes who are the privileged students, and those who are not, which provokes rise to divided learning capacities and capabilities of students. Given that we are experiencing a health crisis, or what we know as the COVID-19 pandemic, academic institutions were required to adhere to modify and change the manner or conducting classes to prevent the widespread of the virus─ inclining towards either modular or taking advantage of the benefits of technology by conducting online classes through different platforms. Considering that distance learning needs to make use of technology, students are therefore asked to have gadgets to be able to attend to online class, in which not all students are privileged enough to have such. Hence, I am not in favor of online classes among students in public school since not all students can afford to have a gadget suitable for online classes, not all have the means and proper resources such as stable connection, and lastly, not entirely have conducive places in home in making them focus while having virtual classes.

**Body**

* Position
* Evidences
* Personal experience s relative to the issue

**Conclusion**

* Summary, Conclusion
* Action

To sum it all, conducting online classes among students in public schools should not be pursued since with the predicaments and hindrances mentioned, not only one student will be left behind, but most affected students. This, alone, should be considered and the relevant authorities should suggest pertinent solutions to adhere to the needs of the students, mostly in the public school.

I believe that online classes should not be conducted among public students for several reasons.

First, not all students can afford to have gadget suitable for online classes. Seeing that pandemic posed a huge impact not only on the education system but for the entire business sector as well, it robbed several Filipino parents of a reliable and stable source of income, pushing them to the brink of insolvency (Bautista, 2020) and the majority of students in public schools come from low-income households (Dollanganger, 2020). Distance learning should be deeply or well-reviewed and scrutinized since the status of individual students are not the same and those who are privileged enough are the ones who get to afford the gadgets and necessary devices needed whereas those families who struggle financially are already having a hard time in adjusting their finances for necessities, the more in getting these equipment in their hands.

Second, not all students have the means and proper resources such as stable internet connection. According to Kritz (2020), merely 26% of public schools are connected to the internet or have the capability to connect to the internet, and almost 5,000 public schools in rural, secluded, and remote areas lack access to electricity and a stable internet connection is vital in conducting distance learning.

Lastly, not entirely have conducive places in home in making them focus while having virtual classes. In light of students who are residing in congested homes, this can also be a contributing factor in the lack of favorable learning environments at home thus affecting the efficacy of online lectures (Joaquin, Biana, & Dacela, 2020).

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