

## Sample Answers

**Assignment:** A Safer Sport: Single-Paragraph Response

**Collection:** Differentiated Content: Opinion: Elementary School

Use the following answers as a reference while guiding students and grading student work. Keep in mind that answers will vary and this is just one way to correctly complete the assignment.

### Plan Your Opinion Paragraph

**Step 1.** Read the article and the data sheet carefully. Use quotes and your own words to complete the Planner.

Review the Reading & Prompt
What is the main idea of the article?
The article "A Safer Sport" is about how flag football is safer and becoming more popular than tackle football.
What is the assignment asking you to do?
This prompt asks me to state my opinion about whether flag football should replace tackle football in my school district.

Introduce the Topic
Give some background information to let readers know about the topic.
Did you know that "experts say kids under 14 are too young to play tackle football" and "the sport can cause serious head injuries"?

My Opinion Is
After reviewing the information in the readings, I believe flag football should replace tackle football in my school district.

### Reasons & Evidence

#### One Reason I Have This Opinion

One reason I believe this is because flag football is safer than tackle football.

#### Evidence That Supports This Reason

According to one source, "a 2017 study found that playing tackle football before age 12 can lead to health problems later in life. Flag football is a safer sport." Also, "a concussion is a brain injury. It can happen with a hard blow to the head or body. Concussions can be serious."

### Reasons & Evidence

#### Another Reason I Have This Opinion

Another reason I believe this is because flag football is becoming very popular in youth sports.

#### Evidence That Supports This Reason

One example of this is that flag football is "growing faster than any other team sport in the United States. There are 1½ million kids ages 6 to 12 playing it. That's more than those who are playing tackle football."

### Wrap Up

#### Restate your opinion in a different way.

In conclusion, we can be safer and still have fun with flag football.

#### Remind readers to agree with you and tell them what to do next.

Think about this: Flag football is the right choice for our school district.

**Step 2.** Reflect and revise your opinion:

- Do your reasons and evidence support your opinion?
- Does your opinion make sense?

**Step 3.** When you are satisfied with the information in your Planner, submit your Planner and begin to write your Draft.

**Step 4.** Fill in information from your Planner to write your Opinion Paragraph.

### **A Safer Sport**

Did you know that tackle football can cause serious head injuries? After reading the information in the article "A Safer Sport" and the data sheet "Stick With Tackle," I believe that we should play flag football instead of tackle football in our school district. One reason I believe this is because flag football is safer for young kids. According to the article, the evidence shows that "playing tackle football before age 12 can lead to health problems later in life." That's because tackling can cause concussions. Another reason is because flag football is becoming very popular in youth sports. For example, according to the article, "there are 1½ million kids ages 6 to 12 playing it. That's more than those who are playing tackle football.". In conclusion, we can be safer and still have fun with flag football. Think about this: Flag football is the right choice for our school district.