

Sample Answers

Assignment: Fire Alarm: Multi-Paragraph Response

Collection: Differentiated Content: Argument: Middle 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 Persuasive Speech

Step 1. Read the article and the data sheet carefully.

Review the Reading & Prompt

What is the main idea of the article?

The article "Fire Alarm" is about the Amazon burning, which is a serious problem because it is such an important area to Earth.

What is the assignment asking you to do?

This prompt asks me to state my position about whether or not we should follow or ignore the rules that protect the Amazon from burning.

Step 2. Now outline your speech. Use quotes and your own words to complete the Planner.

Introduce the Topic

Give some background information to let readers know about the topic.

One interesting fact is there were more than 80,000 fires spotted in Brazil in 2019, many of them in the Amazon. "The fires sparked global outrage."

My Claim

After reviewing the information in the readings, I believe that we should strictly enforce and follow the rules that protect the Amazon rainforest and make sure it does not burn down.

Reasons & Evidence

One Reason That Supports My Claim

One reason I believe this is because the Amazon is important to the health of the planet.

Evidence That Supports This Reason

According to one source, the Amazon's trees absorb carbon dioxide and replace it with oxygen, which slows climate change.

Evidence That Supports This Reason

Another example the rainforest gives us fresh air to breathe.

Reasons & Evidence

Another Reason That Supports My Claim

Another reason I believe this is because the Amazon is one of the most diverse areas on Earth.

Evidence That Supports This Reason

One example of this is that the Amazon is home to millions of species of plants and animals.

Evidence That Supports This Reason

Another example is that more than 30 million people live there.

Opposing Argument & Counterclaim

One Possible Objection to My Claim

Some people might argue we should allow farmers to burn down trees in the Amazon to make way for cattle ranching because it's good for the economy.

My Response

However, we need to find ways to help the Brazilian economy that don't hurt the planet, such as green energy jobs.

Wrap Up

Restate your claim in a different way.

In conclusion, letting people burn the Amazon is a terrible idea.

Make a final call-to-action statement.

Think about this: there is nothing else like the Amazon, it's essential to the health of Planet Earth, and we must act to save it from fires!

Step 3. Go back through the Planner and make any revisions you want to make. 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 Persuasive Speech.

Fire Alarms

An interesting fact about the Amazon is that in 2019 more than 80,000 fires were spotted in Brazil, many of them in the Amazon. This caused protests around the world. After reading the information in the article "Fire Alarm" and "The Amazon is Okay" data sheet, I believe that we should strictly enforce the rules that protect the Amazon rainforest and make sure it does not burn down.

One reason I believe this is because the Amazon is important to the health of the planet. According to the article, the evidence shows that the Amazon's trees absorb carbon dioxide and replace it with oxygen, which slows climate change. Furthermore, the rainforest helps give us fresh air to breathe.

Another reason is because the Amazon is one of the most diverse areas on Earth. For example, it is home to millions of species of plants and animals. Another example is that more than 30 million people live there.

Some people might argue that we should allow farmers to burn down trees in the Amazon to make way for cattle ranching because it's good for the economy. However, we need to find ways to help the Brazilian economy that don't hurt the planet, such as green energy jobs.

In conclusion, letting people burn down the Amazon is a terrible idea. Think about this: there is nothing else like the Amazon and we must act now to save it from fires!.