

Sample Answers

Assignment: Waste Not: 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 “Waste Not” is about schools trying different things to cut down on lunch food waste.

What is the assignment asking you to do?

This prompt asks me to state my opinion about whether the principal of my school should keep or get rid of a rule requiring all students to take a full lunch.

Introduce the Topic

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

Did you know 30 million students in the United States eat school lunch, and at the end of the lunch, garbage cans are full of wasted food?

My Opinion Is

After reviewing the information in the readings, I believe the principal should get rid of the rule requiring all students to take a full lunch, and find other ways to make sure they eat a healthy lunch.

Reasons & Evidence

One Reason I Have This Opinion

One reason I believe this is because **wasted food is wasted money and bad for the environment.**

Evidence That Supports This Reason

According to the readings, "**More than \$1 billion worth of school food is wasted every year.**" Also, "**it's bad for the planet. Farming, packaging, and transporting food causes air pollution. Plus, food packaging often ends up in a landfill.**"

Reasons & Evidence

Another Reason I Have This Opinion

Another reason I believe this is because **there are many other ways to get kids to eat a healthy diet without making them take food they won't eat.**

Evidence That Supports This Reason

One example of **this** is "**According to the USDA, having lunch after recess can reduce food waste. That's because students are often hungrier after playing.**" Other schools are trying new recipes, like **Green Monster Pizza** to get kids to eat kale.

Wrap Up

Restate your opinion in a different way.

In conclusion, getting rid of this rule will cut down on school waste and force the school to come up with a better way to get kids to eat healthy foods.

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

Think about this: I hope you agree that we don't have to waste food and throw food in landfills just to get kids to eat a healthy lunch. Ms. Principal, please end this rule!

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.

Waste Not

Did you know that 30 million kids eat school lunch each day and much of that food ends up in trash cans and landfills? After reading the information in the article "Waste Not" and the data sheet "Kids, Nutrition, and Health," I believe that the principal should end the rule requiring students to take a full meal at lunch and find other ways to make sure students have a healthy diet. One reason to end the rule is that when you waste food you waste money and hurt the environment. According to the article, the evidence shows that "More than \$1 billion worth of school food is wasted every year," and packaging from wasted foods ends up in landfills. Another reason to end this rule is that there are many other ways to get kids to eat a healthy diet without causing all of this food waste. For example, according to the article, "having lunch after recess can reduce food waste. That's because students are often hungrier after playing." In conclusion, getting rid of this rule will cut down on food waste and encourage schools to find other ways to introduce healthy foods. Think about this: It's important to set a good example for students about not wasting food. Ms. Principal, please end this rule!