Building an Effective Claim

Why Do I Need to Know This?

- As a student preparing for the GED RLA test, you will be expected to write an evidence-based argument. The argument accounts for 20% of your total score on the GED RLA test.
- An effective argument begins with a strong claim which is supported by evidence from texts that you will read.
- In this lesson, you will learn how to develop an effective claim.

Essential Question to Consider Throughout this Lesson
What are the most important elements of an effective claim?

Engage

Your neighbor backed his car into your fence. He said that he would pay for the fence repair, but he never did. It has been six months, and you want the money to pay for the repairs. You decide to take your case to Judge Judy.

You have been told that when you come before Judge Judy, you will need to make a claim and provide evidence to support it.

Work with a partner and determine what you will say and do when you appear before Judge Judy. Type your response in this form.

Can You Convince Judge Judy.docx
A **claim** is a roadmap with signs and markings. It guides the writer and the reader through the argument. It includes the position taken and the reason why.

It is the starting point for your argument. You want to make a good impression for your reader from the very beginning of your argument.

Watch the video: [Making a Claim](#).

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you saw in the video.

- What is one thing that you learned about making a claim from this video?
- How will you use this information to help you build a better claim.

Watch the video: [General Argument Writing – Making a Claim](#).

When developing a claim, where do you need to start? Fill in the graphic by placing the following terms in the correct location:

- **Claim**
- **Evidence/Facts**
- **Argument/Position**

15 minutes
Explain

The claim is probably the single most important part of an argument. It serves as a roadmap for your response, and it lets the reader know where you headed.

In this video lesson, you will learn how to

- Identify the part of a claim
- Use a P-R-E Graphic Organizer to help you pull together the information you need to build a claim
- Use a Claim Builder Graphic Organizer to help you pull the claim together into one effective sentence
- Construct a sample claim and prepare to build your own claims

Apply

Access the handout and apply what you have learned by building your own claim.

Share Your Claim!

Practice Time - Build a Claim.docx
### Share

| 10 minutes |

Share your claim with another student. Explain why you chose that particular question or statement on which to practice. Tell them how you developed your claim. Ask for their feedback. After talking with the student, is there anything that you would like to change? If so, why?

### Reflect

| 5 minutes |

Think about what you have learned in this lesson. Do you feel that you are better prepared to move to the next level in writing claims and arguments? Why, or why not?

### Extend

| 5 minutes |

Now, it’s time to learn some of the facts about what is expected on the extended response of the GED RLA test.

Watch the video [How to Pass the GED Extended Response](#).