

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

Reading: Evaluate Author's Conclusions

Practice

The purpose of persuasive text is to convince readers to think or act in a certain way. In an effective persuasive argument, the author presents evidence to support his or her conclusions. When you **evaluate the author's conclusions**, you determine whether the argument is supported by evidence, such as facts, examples, and statistics. Then, decide whether you agree with the conclusions. Use the following checklist to evaluate the author's argument:

- Does the author present a clear argument?.
- Is the argument supported by evidence?
- Is the evidence believable?
- Do I agree with the message? Why or why not?

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

It makes no sense for school to start so early in the morning. Teenagers need at least 8.5 to 9.25 hours of sleep each night. Their sleep patterns shift toward later times for both sleeping and waking. So, it is natural for teens not to be able to fall asleep before 11:00 p.m. Most do not get enough sleep because they must wake up too early for school. A University of Minnesota study shows why it is a good idea to start school at a later time. Seven high schools changed their starting time from 7:15 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. What happened? School attendance improved and students were more alert in class.

1. What is the author's argument? Is it stated clearly?

2. What evidence does the author uses to support the argument?

3. Is the evidence believable? Why or why not?

4. Do you agree with the message? Why or why not?

Name:

Date:

Reading: Evaluate Author's Conclusions

Assess

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

Should all schools have to teach a class on bullying? The answer is yes. According to the American Medical Association, about 30% of youth in the United States are involved in bullying. They are either a bully themselves, a target of bullying, or both. This is more than 5.7 million young people! The effects of bullying are harmful for both the bully and the victim. Bullying is often a warning sign that teens are heading for trouble. Bullies are four times more likely to be convicted of crimes by the age of 24. The victims of bullies become tense and afraid. They might even become depressed. Being bullied can have a bad effect on their schoolwork as well as on their feelings of self-worth.

1. What is the author's argument? Is it stated clearly?

2. What evidence does the author use to support the argument?

3. Is the evidence believable? Why or why not?

4. Do you agree with the message? Why or why not?
