

Student Exemplar: Grade 3 Argument Exemplar, Annotated

The diagram shows a central student argument essay titled "Why Recess is Important" with eight callout boxes pointing to specific parts of the text. The callouts explain various writing techniques used in the essay.

Central Text:

Why Recess is Important

Reading and writing aren't the only things that matter at school. Recess matters too. We need more recess.

More recess is important because that way we can get more exercise. For example, we can play games like kickball and tag. Yesterday I ran so hard I could feel my heart pound. Some kids were moving around the yard and talking and singing and that's exercise too. We can get more exercise and fitness if we have more time for recess.

My second reason we need more recess is because we can spend more time with friends. I have lots of friends that are in other classes, and the only time I get to see them is during recess. I asked the kids in my class if they had friends in other classes, and lots of kids said they did. I also asked them if they wanted more time to play with those friends, and they all said yes. More recess would give us more time to play games with friends who are in our class too.

Can we have 15 minutes longer for recess on Fridays? We would be so happy. Please think about this and give us more recess time.

Callout Boxes:

- The writer tried to hook the audience.
- The writer gave clear reasons why the audience should agree with the claim.
- The writer wrote across pages. The writer may have used paragraphs. The writer organized information so that each part of his or her writing was mostly about one thing.
- The writer used linking words and phrases to connect parts of his or her writing.
- The writer wrote a conclusion. The writer restated his or her claim.
- The writer made a claim.
- The writer put the parts in an order that makes sense.
- The writer used precise language. He or she used words and phrases that are important to the topic.
- The writer gave evidence for his or her reasons such as examples and details.
- The writer may have suggested something readers could do next, or sparked readers to keep on thinking about the topic.