



THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC



Module 4

Argumentative Correspondence: The Persuasive Letter

Grade 3 · Cluster 6

Tackling TEKS · Reading & Writing

3.12C(i) · 3.12D(i) · 3.11B(i) · 3.11B(ii) · 3.11B(iii)



★ Meet Our Week!

Week 4 · Very High Stamina

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- I will identify the audience and purpose for my letter.
- I will write a claim that starts with a decision and moves to reasons using because.
- I will use evidence and explanation to make my reasons strong.
- I will keep my argument the same while changing the format for a reader.

I Can...

- I can name each part of an argumentative letter.
- I can use SET, TREES, and RRR to organize my thinking.
- I can write a persuasive letter to a specific audience.
- I can explain why the evidence proves my claim.

★ A Reader and an Argument

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

"Crash" and "The Good Citizen"

narratives

How can a writer deliver an argument to a specific audience through a persuasive letter?

Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar.

Think of a time when a reader needed to understand your reason.

★ Dot the Tricky Words

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

D

Dot

Place a small dot above any word you are not sure about yet.

O

Discover

Discover the meaning as we learn together through our lessons.

T

Drop

Erase the dot once you know what the word means.

A little dot above a word means:
“I’m not sure about this word yet.”

Dot the word. Discover the meaning. Drop the dot, then celebrate when you own it!

★ The Letter Parts

Day 1 · Reveal

★ Daily Deck

1

Greeting

Name the reader respectfully.

2

SET introduction

Statement of purpose,
Evidentiary transition, thesis
(central idea).

3

TREES body

Carry the reason, evidence,
argument order, thinking, other
side, rebuttal, ending, and
significance.

SET introduces the purpose, evidence, and thesis (central idea).

The Closing signs off.

★ Watch Me Build a Claim

Day 1 · Reveal (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

Three Shapes

circle the topic or decision

box the action verb

triangle the decision clue word should,
whether, or if

Watch Me!

Prompt: Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar.

Model: Amina should have told the truth because honesty builds trust, shows responsibility, and helps solve problems.

The argument does not change; only the format and audience change.

★ Build-A-Letter Lab

Day 2 · Attempt · Partner Game

★ Daily Deck

"Crash" and "The Good Citizen"

How to Play

- 1 Sort Greeting, SET, TREES, RRR, and Closing cards.
- 2 Match a claim to reasons and evidence from "Crash" or "The Good Citizen."
- 3 Place the cards in letter order
- 4 Read the letter aloud and state the argument in one sentence.

Success Check: *Can the partner name each job?*

With Your Partner

Task Card

Dear _____, I think _____ because

Answer

add one evidence sentence and one explanation sentence

How would a letter to Mrs. Ramirez differ from a letter to a community leader?

How would a letter to Mrs. Ramirez differ from a letter to a community leader?

What does the other side think?

How does a rebuttal return to the position?

Why does the reader matter?

Student Directions: “Tell your partner the audience, decision, and two reasons before you write.”



CREATURES and Argument Path

Day 3 · Discuss (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

What detail proves the reason?

Establish C to R

Prove E to A to T

Bring together E to S

The letter body uses TREES to carry these moves.





Try It On Your Own!

Day 3 · Use (Independent Practice) · Interactive Notebook

WHAT

write a complete letter about one of the two narratives

HOW

Include a Greeting, SET introduction, TREES body, RRR conclusion, and Closing.

EVIDENCE

Use at least one direct or paraphrased detail from the selected passage.

Write to a community leader who wants to understand what responsibility looks like.



★ Award & Target!

Day 4 · Award & Target

★ Daily Deck

Award 🏆

Students reread one strong sentence and identify the choice that makes it effective.

- Audience Award: I named my reader and wrote with that reader in mind.
- Argument Award: I used a decision, reasons, evidence, and explanation.
- Structure Award: SET, TREES, RRR, and Closing are purposeful, not labels without meaning.
- Voice Award: The writer sounds persuasive and respectful for the audience.

Target 🎯

My next target: I will improve _____
by _____.

Curiosity Questions

What Do I Still Need to Grow?



Exit Ticket

Day 5 · Educate & Explain to Others

★ Daily Deck

Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar.

Write your claim: Amina should have told the truth because

Use Three Shapes on the prompt.





Build It, Fix It, Say It

Small-Group Support

★ Daily Deck

Tell your partner the decision, then use because to name a reason.

My audience is _____. My decision is _____. My reasons are _____ and _____.

add because and a text detail

The passage shows _____. This proves _____.

Finish the claim with because.

The student chooses the final wording.



Think Like an Author, Write for a Reader

Enrichment · Write in your notebook

Explain how both characters show responsibility even though their situations differ.

Compare Amina telling the truth with Maya returning to the shelter.

Write one claim about each narrative using because.

Use CREATURES, TRACKS, and RRR to make both letters strong.

Write one version to a friend and one to a community leader.



★ My Progress Tracker

This tracker is for **YOU!** As you read and write this week, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in the box that matches how you feel. Be honest, this helps you see how much you are growing!

I Can...	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Name a specific audience and purpose.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Write a decision + because + reasons claim.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Use evidence and explain how it proves a reason.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Use Greeting, SET, TREES, RRR, and Closing.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Address the other side respectfully.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Explain why the argument matters beyond the event.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Keep the argument the same when the audience changes.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes
Teach the letter structure to a partner.	Not Yet	Sometimes	Yes

★ Citizenship Connection

Good Citizens · Our Community & Country

★ responsible citizenship

This module connects argumentative writing to responsible citizenship. Amina shows honesty and responsibility after an accident. Maya shows responsibility and citizenship when she returns to care for Rusty.

Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar. Write to Mrs. Ramirez.

LOW

Amina should have told the truth.

What Is Working: The writer chooses a position that answers the prompt. Affirm the decision.

Teacher Notes: The decision is present, but the because clause, reasons, evidence, and letter structure are missing.

What Needs Improvement: Add: Amina should have told the truth because _____. Use CLAIM writing and rehearse one reason from the passage.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar. Write to Mrs. Ramirez.

MEDIUM

Dear Mrs. Ramirez, Amina should have told the truth because it was the right thing to do. Sincerely, Maya

What Is Working: The writer addresses a reader and uses because. Affirm correspondence and claim structure.

Teacher Notes: The Greeting and Closing are present, but the reason is general and there is no evidence or explanation.

What Needs Improvement: Add a passage detail: Amina raised her hand and said she bumped the table. Ask how the detail proves honesty and responsibility.

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar. Write to Mrs. Ramirez.

HIGH

Dear Mrs. Ramirez, I am writing because Amina faced an important choice after the class plant jar broke. In "Crash," she had to decide whether to stay silent or tell the truth. Amina should have told the truth because honesty builds trust, shows responsibility, and helps solve problems. Amina raised her hand and said, "I bumped the table and knocked it over."

★ **This is our target!**

Our Strongest Answer! (continued)

Prompt: Explain if Amina should have told the truth about breaking the jar. Write to Mrs. Ramirez.

HIGH

This evidence proves that she accepted responsibility instead of hiding the accident. She may have worried about getting in trouble, but telling the truth helped her classmates understand and work together to clean the area. Amina made the right decision. Her honesty helped the class trust her and repair the problem. This matters because responsible choices can make a difficult situation better. Sincerely, Jordan