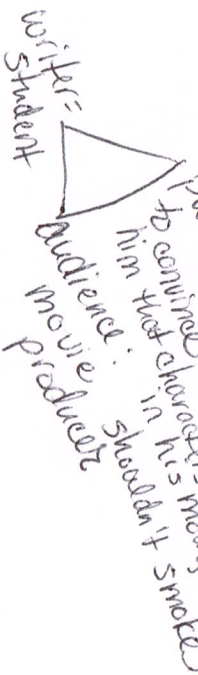


Student Sample: Argument

The argument that follows was written as homework after a class in which sixth grade students viewed a movie titled Smoke Screeners and discussed how movie writers and producers promote smoking through characters. The letter is addressed to the producer of a film in which smoking appears.



Dear Mr. Sandler,

Did you know that every cigarette a person smokes takes seven minutes off their life? I mentioned this because I just watched the movie, Benchwarmers, and I noticed that Carlos smoked.

Question as hook or attention-getter

Why did you feel the need to have one of the characters smoke? Did you think that would make him look cool? Did you think that would make him look older? It did neither of those things. As a matter of

Answer own question

Rhetorical Questions

fact, I think it made him look stupid and not very cool. Especially when he put out a cigarette on his tongue.

hypothetical situation

compare/contrast

If I were producing a movie, I would want my characters to be strong, healthy and smart. I would not have any smokers in my movies for many reasons. The first reason is it sets a bad example for

Statistic

emotional appeal

children. An estimated 450,000 Americans die each year from tobacco related disease. In fact, tobacco

emotional appeal through fact

use causes many different types of cancers such as lung, throat, mouth, and tongue. Another reason not

appeal to desire to be attractive

Reason

to promote smoking is it ages and wrinkles your skin. Who wants to look 75 if you are only 60? It turns your teeth yellow and may lead to gum disease and tooth decay. Lastly, smoking is a very expensive

emotional appeal through description

logical appeal

habit. A heavy smoker spends thousands of dollars a year on cigarettes. I can think of better things to spend money on.

Argument

So Mr. Sandler, I urge you to take smoking out of all future movies you produce. Instead of

having your characters smoke have them do healthy things. That will set a positive influence for children

Contrast

emotional appeal

instead of poisoning their minds. Thanks for reading my letter. I hope you agree with my opinion.

Respectful tone

Sincerely, _____ P.S. I love your Chanukah song.

*108es
some how*

Support for argument