

More from Achieve the Core

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This one-page handout outlines three more reading-writing tasks from Achieve the Core. From the homepage at <http://achievethecore.org>, move the cursor to Classroom Resources at the top and then click on Student Writing Samples along the left. You will find two types of resources: On-Demand Writing, which provides samples across grades and Range of Writing, which provides samples within a grade. There are also filters for grade (K-12) and category (Opinion/Argument, Informative/Explanatory, and Narrative Writing). I browsed On-Demand, at grades K-5, for basic Opinion/Argument prompts such as “**Which is best for you?** or **Which do you like best?**” Like Paula’s, these talking-writing-revising tasks should follow close readings of leveled opinion/argument texts.

LEVEL A (K-1)

- Talk with a partner about your answer and why.
- Draw a picture about your answer and write some words.
- Tell me your answer and I will write it in a sentence.

If students are ready:

- Write a sentence about your answer and why. Use a capital, the word *because*, and period.
- Write 2-3 sentences about your answer and why. Use capitals, the word *because*, and periods.

LEVEL B (2-3)

- Reread the same text with a partner and talk about your answer and reasons again.
- Write one paragraph about your answer or opinion and reasons. Use the words *because* or *since*.
- Check your draft and fix mistakes in capitals, periods, grammar, and spelling.

If students are ready:

- Listen to a different text about the same topic, reread with a partner, and talk more about your opinion and reasons.
- Write an essay (more than one paragraph) that introduces the topic, states your opinion, lists your reasons, uses words like *because*, *since*, *therefore*, or *for example*, and ends with a conclusion.
- Check your draft and fix mistakes in capitals, periods, grammar, and spelling.

LEVEL C (4-5)

- Write notes on the text pages or highlight the advantages and disadvantages of each option or choice.
- Reread the same texts with a partner and make more notes or highlights on the pages.
- Explain your opinion to a partner and refer to facts or details from the texts.
- Write an essay (more than one paragraph) that clearly introduces the topic or texts, states your opinion, lists facts or details in a logical order, uses words like *consequently* or *specifically*, and ends with a conclusion.
- Check your draft and fix mistakes in capitals, periods, grammar, and spelling.