

Debate Club Lockdown

Central Idea & Author's Argument

Name: _____ Date: _____

Circle the best answer for 1 and 2. Answer 3 in complete sentences.

1. Which statement is an unsupported claim?

- (A) The school day is 7 hours long.
- (B) Everyone knows homework is useless.
- (C) A 2019 survey of 500 students found 60% felt tired in first period.
- (D) The CDC recommends 9 to 12 hours of sleep for children ages 6 to 12.

2. What is a counterclaim?

- (A) The main claim
- (B) An opposing view the author responds to
- (C) A fact
- (D) The conclusion

Read: "Our town should add bike lanes on Main Street. Last year, 14 cyclists were hit by cars there. In Carmel, crashes fell 30% after bike lanes were added. Bike lanes are the coolest thing ever. Some people say lanes will take away parking. However, the city has 200 empty spaces in the nearby garage."

3. Evaluate the argument: What is the claim, which evidence is strongest, and which sentence is unsupported? Use evidence.

Use RACE: Restate, Answer, Cite, Explain.

Debate Club Lockdown: Exit Ticket

Total: 5 points. Mastery: 4 or more.

#	Answer	Points
1	(B) Everyone knows homework is useless.	1 point
2	(B) An opposing view the author responds to	1 point
3	R: The argument's claim is that the town should add bike lanes on Main Street. A: The strongest evidence is the Carmel statistic, and the unsupported sentence is "Bike lanes are the coolest thing ever." C: The author writes, "In Carmel, crashes fell 30% after bike lanes were added," but also says "Bike lanes are the coolest thing ever." E: This shows the Carmel fact is specific and relevant because it proves lanes make streets safer, while "coolest thing ever" is only an opinion with no evidence.	3 points: States the claim; Picks the 30% statistic (or 14 cyclists) as strong; Identifies the opinion sentence.