

Name _____ Date _____ Hour _____

Lesson 3.1 Reasons and Evidence

PART 1 | Write

What type of chocolate do you prefer: dark, white, or milk? Write a short paragraph, persuading your reader that your favorite type of chocolate is best.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

PART 2 | Argument Sample

Highlight claim in yellow, evidence in green, and reasoning in blue.

Eating chocolate is beneficial to your health and well-being. When you eat chocolate, you are strengthening your bones and teeth. White chocolate is made with milk, which contains calcium. According to the article, “calcium keeps bones and teeth strong and also helps your heart, muscles, and nerves to function well” (Mayo Clinic).

Another reason chocolate is beneficial is that it actually makes people feel good. This is because chocolate contains theobromine. The article states that

theobromine “causes people to feel happy after eating chocolate” (Mayo Clinic).

PART 3 | Revise to Add Evidence - Read the facts about different types of chocolate and highlight evidence that could help support the claim you originally made.

Facts About Chocolate

White Chocolate

White chocolate, which is made with milk, contains a good amount of calcium. Calcium keeps bones and teeth strong and also helps your heart, muscles, and nerves to function well. Getting plenty of calcium is important to everyone's health.

Milk Chocolate

Milk chocolate was shown in one study to quiet coughs relatively well. This effect is due to a chemical called theobromine found in chocolate. This chemical also causes people to feel happy after eating chocolate.

Dark Chocolate

Flavanols in cocoa beans have antioxidant effects that reduce cell damage implicated in heart disease. Flavanols, which are more prevalent in dark chocolate than in milk chocolate or white chocolate, also help lower blood pressure and improve vascular function.

-From www.mayoclinic.org: "Healthy chocolate: Dream or reality?"

Rewrite your argument using evidence from the text and explain it with reasoning.

What type of chocolate do you prefer: dark, white, or milk? Write a short paragraph, persuading your reader that your favorite type of chocolate is best. Identify your claim, evidence, and reasoning.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper is oriented vertically.

