



THE WRITING ACADEMY, LLC®



Module 3

Completing the Argumentative Paper with CREATURES



Grade 3 • Cluster 6

If You Have to Decide, You Must Declare the WHY — Week 3, High Stamina





Building the Whole CREATURE!

★ Daily Deck

Module Slide 1 • Module 3

I Will...

- Build a claim that starts with a decision and moves to reasons.
- Use If you have to decide, you must declare the WHY to organize my thoughts.
- Write a claim that answers my prompt.

I Can...

- Tell whether a claim is a decision or reasons.
- Use If you have to decide, you must declare the WHY to build a claim.
- **Write a claim** that answers my prompt.

★ Let's Build Something!

Day 1 • Gather

Until now, we have been gathering the pieces of an argument. You have made a claim. You have developed reasons. You have searched for evidence.

Today we learn how strong argumentative writers put all of those pieces together — and go even further.

Teacher: "If you have to decide..." Students: "Declare the WHY!"



Meet CREATURES: Part 1

Day 1 • Reveal

C Claim — state the position you will defend.

R Reasons — give strong reasons for the claim.

E Evidence — use proof from the text.

A Argument — put ideas in a logical order.

T Thinking — explain how the evidence proves the reason.



Meet CREATURES: Part 2

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.)

U Understanding Others — recognize the other side (counterargument).

R Rebuttal — respond and return to your position.

E Ending — reinforce the claim and bring ideas together.

S Significance — explain why it matters beyond you.

Essential Question: How can a writer use CREATURES to build a complete argumentative paper?

★ Watch Me Build the Whole CREATURE!

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.)

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

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

U: Some might argue Amina should have stayed quiet to avoid getting in trouble.

R: However, staying quiet would not solve the problem or protect the trust between Amina and her teacher.

S: Ultimately, honesty matters because families, classrooms, and communities depend on people trusting one another.

Notice the counterargument, the rebuttal, and the significance — those moves turn a good argument into a complete one.

★ Build-A-CREATURE Challenge!

Day 2 • Attempt

How to Play

1. Draw a Prompt Card.
2. Match Claim, Reasons, Evidence.
3. Build the Argument in logical order.
4. Match Thinking, Understanding Others, Rebuttal.
5. Select Ending and Significance.

Justify Your CREATURE

Explain why each card belongs where you placed it — from claim all the way to significance.

C → R → E → A → T → U → R → E → S

Does Our Thinking Work Together?

Day 3 • Discuss

"What does U — Understanding Others ask us to do?" — Think about what someone who disagrees might say.

"What is the difference between U and the second R?" — U tells the other side; R responds to it.

"How is an ending different from significance?" — The ending finishes the argument; significance tells why it matters beyond the student.

≡ Build Your Full CREATURES Argument!

Day 3 • Use (Independent Practice) — Interactive Notebook

C — Did I clearly state what I believe or decided?

R — Did I provide strong reasons that support my claim? E — Did I use evidence from the text?

A — Did I arrange ideas in a logical order? T — Did I explain how my evidence supports my reasoning?

U — Did I recognize a reasonable opposing viewpoint? R — Did I respond and return to my claim?

E — Did I reinforce my claim and bring my argument together? S — Did I explain why this matters beyond me?

Combine every piece into one coherent, multi-paragraph argumentative response.

🎯 You Constructed an Argument!

Day 4 • Award & Target

You made a decision. You supported it. You proved it. You explained it. You considered another perspective. You defended your thinking. And then you showed why the idea matters.

Curiosity Questions

**Can two people use the same evidence and reach different conclusions?
What makes a rebuttal strong?**

★ Teach a Partner CREATURES!

Day 5 • Educate and Explain to Others

"C stands for Claim. Its job is..."

"U stands for Understanding Others. In argumentative writing, this becomes..."

"The second R stands for Rebuttal. Its job is..."

"S stands for Significance. It moves our thinking beyond ourselves by..."

If you can explain each part to someone else, you understand not only the letters, but what each part actually does.

Exit Ticket

Day 5 • Educate & Explain to Others

Explain if Maya should have returned to the shelter to feed Rusty.

On your own: build a complete CREATURES argument — Claim, Reasons, Evidence, Argument order, Thinking, Understanding Others, Rebuttal, Ending, Significance.



One Part at a Time

Small-Group Support — Guided CREATURES

C — Claim: "I believe _____. " R — Reason: "One reason _____ is because _____."

E — Evidence: "The text states, '_____.'" T — Thinking: "This shows _____ because _____."

U — "Some people might argue that _____." R — Rebuttal: "However, _____."

E — Ending: "For these reasons, _____." S — Significance: "This matters beyond this situation because _____."

We are not building the entire argument at once. We build one strong piece at a time, then connect them.

② Strongest Argument Wins!

Enrichment • Multi-Layer CREATURES Challenge

Advanced Prompt: Explain whether or not Maya showed more responsibility than Amina.

Choose a position, compare evidence from both texts, and organize the comparison logically.

Acknowledge a reasonable argument for the other character, rebut it, and explain why responsibility matters beyond the two characters.

✓ My Progress Tracker

Directions

This tracker is for YOU! As you practice writing claims for argumentative prompts using "Crash," look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in or check the box that matches how you feel.

Be honest with yourself — this helps you see how much you are growing!

Let's Look at an Answer!

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

LOW

"Amina should have told the truth. It was the right thing to do. Honesty is good and she did the right thing."

What's missing: States a claim but gives no evidence from the text, no explanation of thinking, no counterargument or rebuttal, and no significance. It needs the full CREATURES structure.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

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

MEDIUM

"Amina should have told the truth because honesty is important. One reason is that honesty builds trust. The text states, 'Thank you for telling the truth, Amina.' This shows that being honest was a good choice. Some people might think Amina should have stayed quiet, but telling the truth was better."

What's missing: Has a claim, one reason with evidence, and a brief counterargument, but the thinking is thin, the rebuttal does not clearly return to the claim, and it is missing a strong ending and a significance statement.

Our Strongest Answer!

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

HIGH

"Amina should have told the truth because honesty builds trust, shows responsibility, and helps solve problems. One reason is that honesty builds trust. The text states, "Thank you for telling the truth, Amina." This shows that Amina's honesty rebuilt trust with her teacher because she admitted exactly what happened instead of hiding her mistake. Some people might argue that Amina should have stayed quiet because admitting the accident could have gotten her in trouble. However, staying quiet would not have solved the problem or protected the trust between Amina and her teacher. For these reasons, telling the truth was the right choice because it showed responsibility and repaired the problem. Ultimately, honesty matters because families, classrooms, and communities depend on people being able to trust one another."

What's working: Includes every part of CREATURES — claim, reasons, evidence, thinking, a counterargument, a rebuttal, an ending, and significance that reaches beyond the story. This is our Module 3 target!