

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

CER CLAIM PRACTICE

All good writing starts with an important statement or INTRODUCTION. In L.A. this is often called a “thesis statement” or a “topic sentence”. In science, it is often called a hypothesis. Any time you are writing, you need to begin by letting your reader know what the writing will be about.

We will use the Kung Fu Panda question that you answered in class as an example below:

QUESTION: Do you think that Kung Fu Panda does a good job showing the ideas of Buddhism?

POOR CLAIMS:

- *Yes.*
- *Yes, I think it does a good job.*
- *Kung Fu Panda does a good job teaching about Buddhism.*

ADEQUATE CLAIMS:

- *The movie Kung Fu Panda does a good job showing ideas of Buddhism for the following reasons.*
- *The movie Kung Fu Panda does a good job showing ideas of Buddhism because it shows many Buddhist ideas.*

EXCELLENT CLAIMS:

- *The movie Kung Fu Panda does a good job showing the ideas of Buddhism. There are many examples of the Buddhist ideas of Dukkah and Samudaya from the Four Noble Truths, as well as the idea of enlightenment.*

An excellent claim does three things.

1. It answers the question with a statement – not just one word!
2. It gives the reader an idea of WHY your claim is true.
3. It gives a general idea of the reasons that you will discuss in your writing.

Now YOU practice!

Directions: Use the examples on the previous page to help you practice your claims below. The table will help you organize your ideas then you will write the claim below it.

Question: Do you think that school days should be made longer?

YOUR CLAIM

Statement	
Why?	
General reasons	

NOW - PUT IT IN A SENTENCE OR TWO - Your final CLAIM using the above information:

Read the paragraph below and answer the question with a CLAIM using information from the paragraph as your reasons.

Teachers assign homework to increase kid's knowledge and help them practice skills. Homework sometimes reviews what students have already learned, helps them review for tests or prepare for a difficult lesson, or introduces an idea that will be discussed in class. Homework also provides an opportunity for parents to participate in their children's education. However, people who are against homework say that it is repetitive, boring and useless. It takes up kid's time without giving them much benefit. Kids today have many activities outside of school. It is difficult for families to put in the time it takes for homework to be done well.

SHOULD TEACHERS GIVE HOMEWORK?

YOUR CLAIM:
