**Step 1: You Try It Together**

With a partner or in a small group, analyze the following prompt using the instructions below.

Many people believe that students can have deeper and more engaging learning experiences through the practical application of skills in a workplace setting than they can through traditional classroom learning. These people advocate that students engage in apprenticeships and other forms of real-world learning. Do you agree or disagree that students as young as middle school should be allowed to have sample work experiences during the school day and have them count for academic credit? After selecting a position, develop an argument to support your claim.

Instructions:

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| --- | --- |
| **Circle** | Circle the main question you must answer. |
| **Box** | Draw a box around the specific aspects of the main question you must address, breaking them down into as many parts as necessary to address every single aspect thoroughly. |
| **Underline** | Underline the actual task to complete. |
| **Asterisk** | Place asterisks next to the specific criteria you must meet in order to complete the task effectively. |

Next, develop a claim. Evaluate your claim using the grid below and revise if necessary.

Your claim:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Is the claim…** | **Yes or No?** | **Explain** |
| Arguable |  |  |
| Clear |  |  |
| Specific |  |  |

Does the claim meet the demands of the prompt? Explain your answer describing.

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If you answered no to any of the questions above, revise your claim appropriately.

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**Step 2: You Try it Alone**

On your own, analyze the following prompt using the instructions below.

While everyone has the right to free speech, some acts of speech are not allowed in school. Some schools even try to limit speech by their students who post on social media after school if that speech impacts other students in the school. Is it fair to punish students for expressing negative opinions online outside of school when these students use their own devices? Or are these punishments by schools a violation of the student’s right to free speech? After selecting a position on the matter, develop an argument to support your claim.

Instructions:

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| --- | --- |
| **Circle** | Circle the main question you must answer. |
| **Box** | Draw a box around the specific aspects of the main question you must address, breaking them down into as many parts as necessary to address every single aspect thoroughly. |
| **Underline** | Underline the actual task to complete. |
| **Asterisk** | Place asterisks next to the specific criteria you must meet in order to complete the task effectively. |

Next, develop a claim. Evaluate your claim using the grid below and revise if necessary.

Your claim:

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| **Is the claim…** | **Yes or No?** | **Explain** |
| Arguable |  |  |
| Clear |  |  |
| Specific |  |  |

Does the claim meet the demands of the prompt? Explain your answer.

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If you answered no to any of the questions above, revise your claim appropriately.

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