**Step 1: Practice Together**

Writers should use language appropriate for the audience and occasion.

Read each of the following statements and indicate whether the language is formal or informal. If the language is informal, rewrite the sentence to use more formal language.

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| **Statement** | **Formal or Informal?** | **Rephrase to Make Formal** |
| That doesn’t even count as evidence. It’s like he’s making stuff up. |  |  |
| After-school programs are effective for several reasons, including improving health, improving teamwork, and providing a model of positive ways to spend free time. |  |  |
| The author believes that 21st century “survival skills” like communication and collaboration matter just as much to college and career success. |  |  |
| If you agree with that bad idea, you’re just wrong. |  |  |

**Step 2: Independent Practice**

Read the following excerpt from a student letter to the principal, written to argue in favor of physical activity within the school day.

Underline the sentences that are not written with the appropriate style of writing for this audience.

Recess is an excellent way to promote physical activity, even for older students, because it gives students a chance to move freely for a sustained period outside of classes. Not having a break during the school day can be detrimental to some students’ sense of well-being. We are expected to focus all day in class without any chance to relax that’s so unfair. Being able to interact with our friends, walk around, or play sports for a brief time would help us take a breather from all the stress we have in our classes.

Having physical education every day would also have a positive impact on students' physical and mental health. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that kids have at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day. If a student has physical education class each day, then a school can ensure that students are getting the required amount of exercise to stay in shape and be healthy. If you don't provide gym to the students, then you don't care about screwing up their health.

Choose two informal sentences and rewrite them to use a more formal style.

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