

INFORMATIONAL TEXT PASSAGES TO ADDRESS THE STANDARD!

Name: _____

POINT OF VIEW & PURPOSE

Point of view or perspective is the way an author feels about the topic they are writing about. In order to determine the author's perspective on a topic, a reader must analyze the text for the author's word choices and the author's purpose in writing. The author's purpose in writing is the reason the author is writing. For example, if an author agrees with an idea, they may write something in order to persuade other people to agree as well.

Read the following text:

The benefits of team sports for kids far outweigh any risks. Team sports help children get regular exercise, which has many benefits. Team sports help children learn important skills like teamwork and time management. Kids who participate in team sports are often more confident and have opportunities to build friendships with people they wouldn't otherwise know. All parents should seriously consider signing their child up for a team sport.

Use the previous paragraph to answer the following questions.

- Which sentence from the paragraph BEST shows the author's purpose?
 - "The benefits of team sports for kids far outweigh any risks."
 - "Kids who participate in team sports are often more confident and have opportunities to build friendships with people they wouldn't otherwise know."
 - "All parents should seriously consider signing their child up for a team sport."
 - "Team sports help children get regular exercise, which has many benefits."

The author uses specific words that show their perspective on team sports. Identify two words from the paragraph that show the author's perspective and explain how they show the author's perspective.

©Read Write Middle 2019

Name: _____

POINT OF VIEW & PURPOSE

In many areas of the United States, football is a major part of life. Children begin playing football at a very young age, and many boys play football throughout their lives. One of the most dangerous pastimes for children is also one of the most popular. It is also one of the most dangerous pastimes for children.

Football is a difficult sport to participate in. Players must take very hard hits that are a regular part of the game. While broken limbs are always a possibility when playing football, the most dangerous injuries come when a player takes a hit to the head. Concussions can have long-lasting consequences for players.

Football has been played in some form for over a hundred years. While the game has changed significantly since it was first played, the basic rules remain the same. While concussions are a danger to players, some football players have experienced concussions in the past. It is shown that multiple concussions can have devastating effects on players.

In addition, officials at the college and professional levels have acknowledged how dangerous concussions can be for football players. Research shows that some former professional football players have had permanent brain damage, which was likely caused by repeated concussions when they were players. Players of all ages are beginning to recognize the serious risks associated with playing football.

- What was the author's purpose in writing the passage?
- How does the author's word choices help show their perspective?

A. To explain that football can be a beneficial activity.

A. Phrases such as "dangerous pastime" and "devastating effects" show the author feels football is dangerous.

B. To persuade athletes to be more cautious when playing football.

B. Words such as "serious" and "dangerous" show the author feels football is dangerous.

C. To explain how dangerous concussions are for football players.

C. Phrases such as "dangerous pastime" and "devastating effects" show the author feels concussions are preventable.

D. To persuade officials to take precautions to prevent concussions.

D. The phrase "brain damage" shows how serious the topic is.

2

©Read Write Middle 2019



INFORMATIONAL TEXT PASSAGES TO ADDRESS THE STANDARD!

Name: _____

POINT OF VIEW & PURPOSE

Football is an American tradition. Young children sign up to play and begin dreaming of playing high school football. The most talented players will go on to play at the college level. Most of the best players are talented and go on to play professional football. Even for those who never play professionally, football provides many benefits to playing football. It provides regular physical activity at a time when many children do not get enough. It also creates opportunities for team building and helps students learn how to manage a busy practice schedule.

Anyone who has ever watched football knows that it involves a lot of physical contact. The game involves hard hits and many players are tackled during the game. Sometimes players suffer from injuries that include broken arms or legs. Other times, the injuries can be more serious. While uncommon, spinal and brain injuries have happened to players. Football players also face the risk of concussions that result from hard hits to the head.

Due to the physical nature of the game, many players believe it is one of the most dangerous sports. In fact, even serious concussions can happen to anyone playing the sport. Football makes the sport more dangerous, but it also provides many hard hits, but players do have protection during the game. Football players wear special equipment that makes the game much safer. They are part of the required uniform that helps protect players. In addition, football players wear helmets and mouth guards to protect them.

The research that has shown that football can be very dangerous has also been used to make the game safer. Young players are being coached on how to make safer tackles. Far more attention is being paid when a player sustains a head injury. Any player that could have a concussion is required to be examined by medical professionals before they are allowed to return to the field. Players that have a concussion must take a break from playing until they are cleared to return. In some cases, it can't be many weeks before they are allowed to play again.

The people feel that football is too risky for a game for children to participate in while the decision is a variable. It may be a bit of an overreaction, but there is always the potential for a player to be injured during a game, but that is the case for any sport. Officials and coaches are constantly making changes that make the game much safer for athletes. There are lots of benefits to playing football. It allows children the opportunity to get exercise on a regular basis. Players have opportunities to develop friendships with people that they may not have otherwise met. Football also requires a time commitment and players must develop important time management skills. Football is a great American sport that enriches the lives of players.

©Read Write Middle 2019

Name: _____

POINT OF VIEW & PURPOSE

Choose the best answer for the following questions.

1. Which statement best describes the author's purpose for writing the passage?

- A. The author's purpose was to explain the many risks of playing football.
- B. The author's purpose was to persuade parents to prevent their children from playing football.
- C. The author's purpose was to persuade officials to make football a safer sport.
- D. The author's purpose was to explain that despite the risks, football is still safe.

2. How does the author's word choices in the passage help show their point of view?

- A. Words such as "dangers" and "injuries" show that the author believes football is unsafe.
- B. Words such as "activity" and "contact" show that the author believes football is still safe.
- C. Words such as "activity" and "contact" show that the author believes the benefits of football outweigh the risks.
- D. Words such as "opportunities" and "enriches" show that the author believes the benefits of football outweigh the risks.

3. Which quote from the passage supports the author's claim that the game is safe?

- A. "The research that has shown that football can be very dangerous has also been used to make the game safer."
- B. "Anyone who has ever watched football knows that it involves a lot of physical contact."
- C. "The game involves hard hits and many players are tackled during the game."
- D. "There is always the potential for a player to be injured during a game, but that is the case for any sport."

4. How does the author's tone in the passage about the safety of football for children who play disprove the claim?

- A. The author states that while football is dangerous, there are other sports that are more dangerous.
- B. The author states that while football is dangerous, there are many safety precautions that are meant to protect players.
- C. The author states that people who are concerned about the safety of football players are overreacting.
- D. The author states that people who are worried about the dangers of football are wrong.

©Read Write Middle 2019

