

THE RACE WRITING

STRATEGY



Name: _____ Date: _____

Washing Your Hands



Washing your hands is one of the most important practices to prevent germs from spreading. It removes germs that can cause diseases. Did you know there are 2 types of germs, resident microorganisms and transient microorganisms? Resident germs don't cause diseases. They will always live on your skin, even when you wash your hands. Transient microorganisms transfer on your hands and cause infections. Many people around the world are more vulnerable to, or at-risk of, contracting respiratory infections, as well as the cold and flu virus, due to not washing or improperly washing hands. Remember to stay healthy by washing your hands with soap and water.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question. According to the text, What does the word, *vulnerable* mean? Use evidence from the text.

- R _____
- A _____
- C Underline the evidence with a crayon or marker and write it on the line below.

- E _____

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10 Non-Fiction available in Printable and Digital
The RACE Strategy helps students answer open-ended responses questions completely.

R The Race Strategy

Restate the question:

Turn the question into a statement.

A Answer the question

Remember to answer all parts of the question.

C Cite the evidence to support your answer:

Support you answer from the text. Remember to use quotation marks if you use a direct quote from the text. Introduce your citation for example, "According to the text," "For example," "The author stated..." "For instance"

E Explain your answer:

Explain why your citation proves your answer.

Elephants

How do you protect your skin from the sun? Many people use sunscreen. Elephants have sensitive skin, they use a form of sunscreen to protect themselves from the sun. They throw mud and sand over themselves. Elephants will protect their calves from the sun by standing over them while they are sleeping. Elephants know how to avoid the sun.

How are elephants intelligent animals?

R Animals are intelligent animals because

A they know how to protect themselves from the sun

C In the text, it says, " They throw mud and sand over themselves. They stand over their calves to protect them from the sun."

E Based on the text elephants use mud and sand as a sunscreen.

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Cell Phones in the Classroom



As smartphones have become popular, the debate of having cell phones in the classroom has been discussed between parents and teachers. Some parents may say cell phones help with providing research for schoolwork and keep students safe. Many students are home alone before their parents return from work. Also, cell phone calendars and other useful apps can help students stay organized. They can prepare students for adult life. However, on the other side, cell phones may distract students in classrooms. Cell phones make it easier for students to cheat during tests and put students at risk of cyber bullying. The use of smartphones has caused less verbal communication for children. Students may not be responsible with a cell phone.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question. Do you believe students should use cell phones in the classroom?

Use evidence from the text.

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Use the RACE strategy to answer the question. Do you believe students should use cell phones in schools? Use evidence from the text.

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Yoga in the Classroom



In the last few years, brain breaks have become popular in the classroom. Have you ever thought about the benefits of yoga in the classroom? Yoga reduces stress and anxiety. Students may have family challenges, as well as daily stress about life, school and friends. Yoga provides a time to clear their mind. It also improves memory and attention span and allows students to focus, helping them to do better in school. It provides mindfulness, teaching students how to become less anxious and more relaxed. Some schools have yoga classes, instead of detention, teaching students to meditate. Yoga teaches students lifelong skills.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question.

What does the author think about yoga in the classroom? Use evidence from the text.

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Uniforms in Schools



Some schools have uniform requirements for their students, claiming that parents will save money and that students will focus more on learning than their clothing, which will limit negative comments and bullying. On the other hand, everyone has their own identity and wearing uniforms in school limits students' individuality. Parents may have to spend more money buying clothes because students will need uniforms, as well as everyday clothes, to wear at home. Students from low-income homes will be targeted for having unclean uniforms. This is an issue that has several pros and cons.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question. Do you believe students should be required to wear uniforms? Use evidence from the text?

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Hold the Straws Please



Did you know that plastic straws have been banned from some restaurants? They are not only harmful to the environment, but to our health.

Many plastics straws can't be recycled, due to their size and weight. Straws don't make it through the recycling sorter. When shipped on boats, they get blown into the ocean because they are so lightweight.

Most sugary drinks are served with straws - this is a gateway to your teeth and, over time, can cause tooth decay. Drinking from a straw affects your digestive system, as well. It makes air bubbles that cause bloating and gas, an uncomfortable feeling.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question.

Why should plastic straws be banned? Use evidence in the text.

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Dental Health



Dentists say that we should brush our teeth twice a day and floss. Is this really important? If you don't brush or floss your teeth daily, you are putting yourself at risk for cavities, gingivitis, and gum disease. When you eat, pieces of food get trapped between your teeth. If that food isn't removed, it can cause damage, like cavities, holes in your teeth. Sugary snacks and drinks cause damage to your teeth. Gingivitis is a gum disease that causes irritation, redness and swelling of your gums. If not treated, gingivitis can lead to a much more serious gum disease called periodontitis, as well as tooth loss. Remember to brush and floss your teeth save them for as long as you can.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question. According to the text, Why is it important to have good dental hygiene? Use evidence of the text.

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School Gardening



Many schools are integrating gardening into their curriculum. Does gardening really benefit the students? Having a connection with nature is very important. Students will become aware of the water cycle, energy cycle, the food chain, and appreciate nature more. It also allows students to be held accountable for taking care of the garden. Research has proven that students who participate in school gardening score higher on standardized science assessments. Students will also learn about nutrition and the importance of healthy eating. Kids are more likely to try vegetables and fruit that they have grown themselves.

Use the RACE strategy to answer the question. According to the text, Should schools integrate gardening in the curriculum? Use evidence of the text.

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Raise the Minimum Wage?



The minimum wage was introduced in 1938 at \$0.25 per hour. It has since increased 22 times and is currently set at \$8.25 an hour. In the next few years it will continue to increase. Some states will see \$15 per hour by 2024. There is a debate about the minimum wage. Some people think that \$8.25 is too low for anyone to live on and that a higher minimum wage will create jobs and grow the economy, while reducing poverty. Currently, many people are unable to afford housing and everyday essentials, such as food. Other people think raising the minimum wage would force businesses to lay off their employees and unemployment would increase. Small businesses would be forced to close having to pay employees \$15 per hour and consumers would see price increases on products. There are many opinions about raising the minimum wage.

Use the RACE Strategy to answer the question. Should the minimum wage increase? Use evidence in the text.

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Self - Driving Cars



Do self-driving cars cause more harm than humans driving cars? This is a debate that has many concerns. People who are for self-driving cars argue that robots don't get distracted. Many car accidents are due to drivers being distracted, texting, or putting on makeup. Also, humans may fall asleep at the wheel. This will not be a concern if the car is self-driving. Now, on the other hand, many jobs would be lost as a result of these cars. Uber and taxi drivers would not be needed to drive people to their locations. We all know that technology isn't reliable, so there will most likely be more car accidents. If there are self-driving cars, will the driving license requirements change? There are so many concerns about self-driving cars. Will we see more self-driving cars on the road soon?

Use the RACE Strategy to answer the question. According to the text should self-driving cars be allowed on the road? Use evidence in the text.

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The 3D Printer has changed the future



People who are in need of a prosthetic arm or leg may be able to afford them, thanks to 3D scanners and printers. A prosthetic arm can cost \$1,000 just for the materials alone, but with a 3D scanner and printer, the cost of materials can be just around \$4. A 3D printer may cost \$1,000- \$3,000. This cost is very reasonable compared to the cost of the facility that is needed to create traditional prosthetic arms or legs cost up to \$50,000. They are only built to withstand only three and five years before a replacement is needed due to wear and tear. Thanks to the 3D printer, many people are able to live a happier and more mobile life.

Use the RACE Strategy to answer the question. How has the 3D printer changed the future of prosthetic limbs? Use evidence in the text.

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