

Name _____

Date _____

Editorial Structure

An **editorial** is an opinion piece that usually appears in the opinion and commentary section of a newspaper. It expresses one or more opinions on an issue and supports them with facts. A **fact** is a statement that can be proved, while an **opinion** shows belief or feeling. Like an argument, an editorial often has a **claim** (the writer's position), **reasons and evidence** (both facts and opinions that support the claim), and a **conclusion** (a summary of the main point). In more advanced grades, editorials may also include **counterarguments**, which respond to different viewpoints.

1. Analyze the structure of the editorial and fill in the map.

Schools Should Start Later

Many middle and high schools begin classes before 8:00 a.m., but research shows that teenagers need more sleep. I believe schools should start later in the morning.

First, lack of sleep affects students' health. Doctors state that teens require about 8–10 hours of sleep each night. However, early start times make it impossible for most students to get enough rest. This is a fact supported by medical research.

Second, more sleep improves academic performance. Studies from the American Academy of Pediatrics found that students with later start times scored higher on tests and had better focus in class. This evidence shows that later schedules help learning.

Finally, later start times reduce stress. When students are

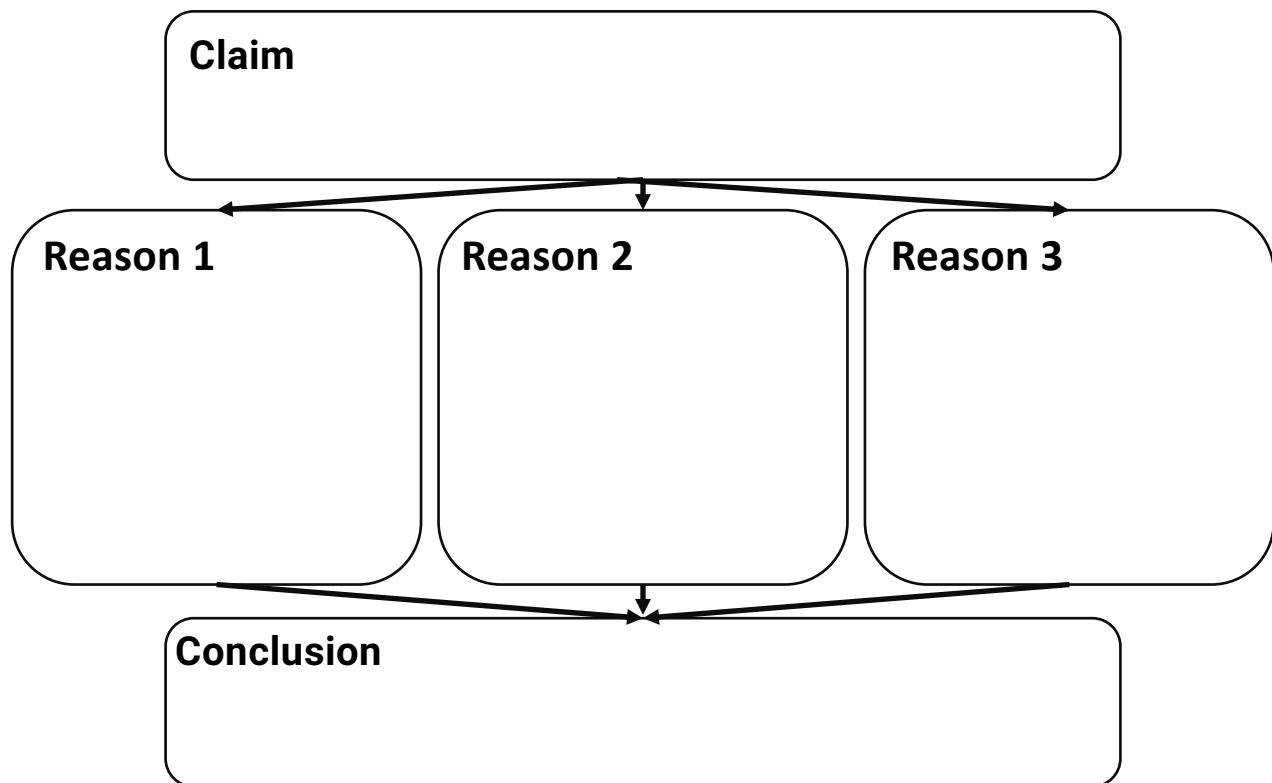
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well-rested, they are less likely to feel anxious or depressed. In my opinion, schools should care more about student well-being than strict schedules.

In conclusion, starting school later benefits health, learning, and happiness. Changing the schedule may not be easy, but it is the right step for students' futures.



2. Add a counterargument to make the editorial more balanced and persuasive

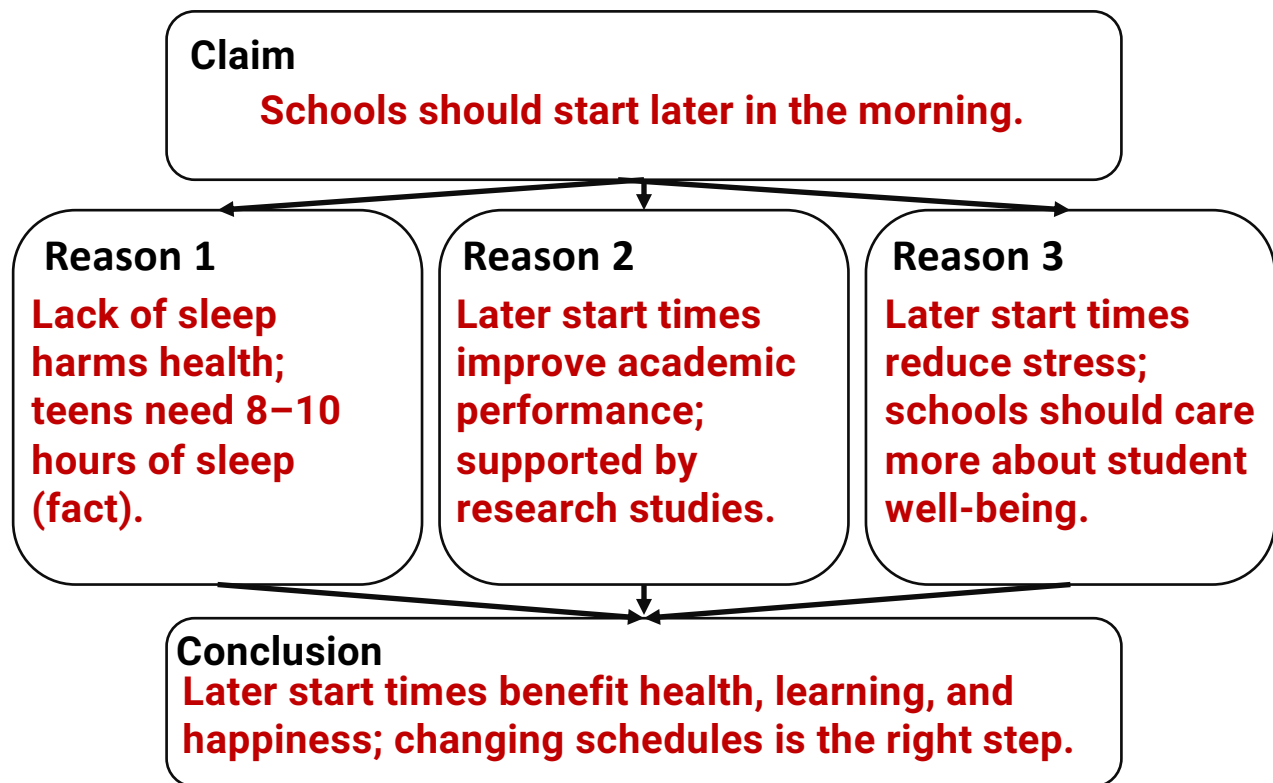
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Editorial Structure – Answer Key

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Some argue later start times disrupt parents' routines, but student health must come first. Families can adapt, and the benefits for teens outweigh the inconvenience.