

Select The Correct Text In The Passage. Which Sentence Best Develops The Authors Claim That It's Important

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Understanding how to identify the sentence that best develops an author's claim is a vital skill in reading comprehension and critical analysis. When engaging with a passage, readers are often tasked with determining which sentence most effectively supports or elaborates on the main idea or the author's assertion. This process involves close reading, recognizing thesis statements, supporting details, and the logical flow of ideas. In this article, we will explore strategies to select the correct text within a passage and analyze what makes a sentence the best development of the author's claim.

What Does It Mean to Develop an Author's Claim?

Before diving into selection strategies, it's essential to understand what it means for a sentence to develop an author's claim.

Defining the Author's Claim

- The author's claim is the central idea or main argument expressed in the passage.
- It is often presented explicitly in a thesis statement or implied through the overall discussion.

Development of the Claim

- Development involves providing evidence, explanations, examples, or elaborations that support or deepen understanding of the claim.
- Sentences that develop the claim are usually supporting details, examples, or elaborative statements.

Strategies for Selecting the Best Supporting Sentence

Choosing the correct sentence involves critical thinking and a systematic approach.

1. Identify the Main Claim or Thesis

- Read the passage carefully to determine the main idea.
- Look for a thesis statement or a sentence that summarizes the author's position.

2. Find Supporting Details

- Support sentences provide evidence or elaboration related to the main idea.
- These are often placed after the thesis statement and help clarify why the claim is important.

3. Look for Signal Words and Phrases

- Words like "for example," "such as," "because," "therefore," "this demonstrates," and "in conclusion" often indicate supporting or elaborative sentences.
- These signals help identify which sentences are meant to develop the main claim.

4. Assess the Relevance and Specificity

- The best supporting sentence should be directly related to the author's claim.
- It should add specificity or detail that enhances understanding or emphasizes importance.

5. Evaluate the Logical Flow

- The supporting sentence should logically follow the main idea and contribute to the overall argument or message.

Examples of Identifying the Supporting Sentence

Let's examine an example passage and analyze which sentence best develops the author's claim.

Sample Passage

> "Recycling has become an essential part of environmental conservation efforts. Many communities have implemented recycling programs to reduce waste and conserve natural resources. For instance, cities that promote recycling see a significant decrease in landfill waste. This not only helps protect the environment but also saves money and energy. Therefore, encouraging recycling practices is vital for sustainable development."

Main Claim

- The central idea is that "Recycling has become an essential part of environmental conservation efforts."

Supporting Sentences

- "Many communities have implemented recycling programs to reduce waste and conserve natural resources." (Supports the claim by showing community action)
- "For instance, cities that promote recycling see a significant decrease in landfill waste." (Provides specific evidence)
- "This not only helps protect the environment but also saves money and energy." (Elaborates on benefits)
- "Therefore, encouraging recycling practices is vital for sustainable development." (Concludes with a call to action)

Which Sentence Best Develops the Claim?

- The sentence: "Many communities have implemented recycling programs to reduce waste and conserve natural resources."

Reason: It directly supports the claim by illustrating widespread efforts and emphasizing the importance of recycling in conservation.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid When Selecting the Supporting Sentence

While analyzing passages, readers should be aware of common mistakes.

1. Choosing a Sentence That Is Too General or Vague

- General statements may not effectively develop the claim.
- Look for specific details or evidence.

2. Picking a Sentence That Is Off-Topic

- Ensure the sentence directly relates to the main idea.

3. Selecting a Sentence That Is Merely Rephrasing the

Main Claim

- Rephrasing is not development; look for elaboration or evidence.

4. Overlooking Signal Words

- Signal words help identify supporting or elaborative sentences.

How to Practice Selecting the Correct Text

Practicing with various passages can improve your skill in identifying the best development of an author's claim.

Step-by-Step Practice Approach

1. Read the passage thoroughly to understand the main idea.
2. Highlight or underline the thesis statement if present.
3. Identify supporting sentences that provide evidence, examples, or elaboration.
4. Evaluate each candidate sentence based on relevance, specificity, and its contribution to developing the claim.
5. Choose the sentence that best supports or elaborates on the main idea.

Sample Practice Exercise

- Find a paragraph on a topic of your choice.
- Determine the main claim.
- List potential supporting sentences.
- Select the one that best develops the main idea.

Conclusion

In conclusion, selecting the correct text in a passage that best develops the author's claim is fundamental to understanding and analyzing written material effectively. By identifying the main idea, recognizing supporting details, paying attention to signal words, and evaluating relevance and logical flow, readers can confidently determine which sentence contributes most to the author's argument or message. Continuous practice using these strategies will enhance comprehension skills and prepare you for exams, academic research, or everyday reading tasks. Remember, the key is to look for sentences that add specific, relevant, and elaborative information that deepens your understanding of the author's central message.

Additional Tips for Effective Reading and Analysis

- Always read passages more than once to ensure comprehension.
- Take notes or annotate margins for quick reference.
- Summarize the main idea in your own words.
- Practice with diverse texts to become familiar with different writing styles.

By mastering the ability to select the correct supporting sentence, you will improve your overall reading comprehension and analytical skills, enabling you to engage more critically and thoughtfully with any passage you encounter.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I identify the sentence that best supports the author's main claim in a passage?

Look for sentences that provide clear evidence, examples, or elaboration directly related to the main idea, helping to strengthen or develop the author's argument.

What are some clues that indicate a sentence is the best development of the author's claim?

Clues include sentences that explicitly reinforce the main point, introduce relevant details, or effectively illustrate the author's argument, often marked by transitional phrases like 'for example' or 'this shows that'.

Why is selecting the correct sentence important when analyzing a passage?

Choosing the correct sentence helps demonstrate a clear understanding of the author's main claim and how supporting details are used to develop the argument, which is crucial for comprehension and analysis.

What strategies can I use to determine which sentence best develops the author's claim?

Strategies include reading the passage carefully, identifying the main idea early on, and then checking which sentences provide the most relevant support or elaboration related to that main idea.

Can the best sentence that develops the author's claim be a concluding sentence or a detail within the paragraph?

Yes, the best development sentence can be a concluding statement that summarizes the main idea or a detail that provides significant support, as long as it clearly advances the author's argument.

Additional Resources

Select The Correct Text In The Passage: Which Sentence Best Develops The Author's Claim That It's Important

In the realm of reading comprehension and critical analysis, one skill stands out as particularly essential: the ability to identify the sentence that best develops the author's central claim or argument. This skill not only enhances understanding but also sharpens analytical thinking, enabling readers to grasp the core message and its supporting details effectively. Whether you are a student preparing for exams, a professional analyzing complex texts, or an avid reader aiming to deepen your comprehension, mastering the art of selecting the most impactful sentence is invaluable.

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the significance of choosing the correct text that develops an author's claim, the strategies for identifying such sentences, and how this skill can be applied across various contexts. Think of this as a specialized toolkit—much like selecting the best features of a high-end gadget—that empowers you to dissect and appreciate written content at a nuanced level.

The Importance of Recognizing Supporting Sentences in Texts

Before delving into how to select the best sentence, it's essential to understand why this skill matters. When authors craft their passages, they build their ideas through a combination of claims, evidence, explanations, and elaborations. Recognizing which sentences serve to support or develop the main claim is akin to identifying the pillars that uphold a structure.

Establishing the Central Claim

Every well-written passage or argument begins with a clear main idea or thesis. This might be explicitly stated or implied. Once identified, the reader's task is to discern how subsequent sentences reinforce, elaborate, or justify this core message.

Supporting Sentences and Their Role

Supporting sentences:

- Clarify the main idea
- Provide evidence or examples
- Offer explanations or reasoning
- Connect different ideas logically

Without recognizing these supporting sentences, a reader risks misunderstanding the overall message or missing nuanced arguments.

The Impact of Correct Identification

Selecting the sentence that best develops the author's claim allows for:

- Improved comprehension and retention
- Clearer understanding of argument structure
- Enhanced critical analysis skills
- Better preparation for standardized tests and academic writing

Strategies for Selecting the Best Sentence That Develops the Claim

Choosing the correct sentence is a skill that can be cultivated through systematic strategies. Here are some expert tips to refine this ability:

1. Identify the Main Idea or Thesis

Begin by pinpointing the central claim or argument of the passage. This provides a reference point for evaluating which sentences contribute to its development.

Questions to ask:

- What is the author primarily trying to convey?
- Is there an explicit thesis statement, or is it implied?
- How do the sentences relate to this main idea?

2. Look for Signal Words and Phrases

Authors often use specific words to indicate supporting information, such as:

- Because
- Since
- For example
- Therefore
- This suggests
- As a result

These cues can guide you toward sentences that elaborate on or justify the main claim.

3. Analyze Sentence Placement and Content

Supporting sentences typically appear after the main idea and contain details or evidence. Look for:

- Sentences that introduce examples or data
- Explanatory statements expanding on previous ideas
- Clarifications that specify or narrow the scope of the claim

4. Evaluate Relevance and Specificity

The best supporting sentence should be directly relevant and contribute uniquely to developing the claim. Avoid sentences that are tangential or merely filler.

Checklist:

- Does the sentence directly relate to the main claim?
- Does it provide new insight or evidence?
- Does it deepen understanding or clarify the argument?

5. Consider Logical Flow and Transitions

Effective passages have a logical progression. Supporting sentences often serve as bridges between ideas, indicating cause-effect, comparison, contrast, or elaboration.

Applying the Skill: Analyzing Sample Passages

Let's consider an example to illustrate how to select the sentence that best develops the author's claim.

Sample Passage:

"Renewable energy sources are critical in combating climate change. Solar and wind power have become increasingly affordable and efficient. Many experts agree that investing in these technologies can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, some argue that renewable energy alone cannot meet all energy demands without advancements in storage and grid infrastructure."

Main Claim:

Renewable energy sources are critical in combating climate change.

Supporting Sentences Analysis:

- Sentence 2: Discusses advancements in solar and wind power.
- Sentence 3: Notes expert consensus on investment benefits.

- Sentence 4: Mentions limitations and the need for infrastructure improvements.

Question:

Which sentence best develops the author's claim that renewable energy sources are critical in combating climate change?

Answer:

Sentence 3: "Many experts agree that investing in these technologies can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

This sentence directly supports the claim by providing expert backing and emphasizing the importance of renewable energy in reducing emissions, a key factor in combating climate change.

Common Challenges and How to Overcome Them

Identifying the supporting sentence isn't always straightforward, especially in complex or dense texts. Here are common challenges and solutions:

Challenge 1: Implicit Claims or Arguments

Solution: Focus on the context and overall tone. Look for sentences that provide explanations or evidence related to a central idea.

Challenge 2: Multiple Supporting Sentences

Solution: Determine which sentence offers the strongest or most comprehensive development of the main claim.

Challenge 3: Distracting or Irrelevant Details

Solution: Practice filtering out tangential information by asking, "Does this sentence advance or clarify the main argument?"

Expert Tips for Mastery

- Practice with diverse texts: Read essays, articles, and reports across disciplines to familiarize yourself with different argument structures.
- Annotate as you go: Highlight or underline sentences that seem to develop the core claim.
- Summarize passages: After reading, try to paraphrase the main idea and identify

supporting sentences.

- Ask critical questions: Does this sentence expand, justify, or exemplify the main idea?

Conclusion: Elevating Your Reading Comprehension

Mastering the skill of selecting the correct text that best develops the author's claim is a cornerstone of effective reading comprehension and critical analysis. It requires a keen eye for detail, an understanding of logical structures, and the ability to discern relevance and significance within a passage. By employing strategic approaches—such as identifying signal words, analyzing sentence placement, and evaluating relevance—you can significantly improve your ability to interpret complex texts and articulate their core messages.

Whether preparing for exams, engaging in scholarly analysis, or simply seeking to become a more discerning reader, honing this skill transforms passive reading into active engagement. Remember, the goal is not just to find the right sentence but to understand how it functions within the broader narrative or argument. With consistent practice and analytical rigor, selecting the best supporting sentence becomes second nature, elevating your comprehension to expert levels.

Elevate your reading skills today by integrating these strategies into your practice, and unlock a deeper, more nuanced understanding of every passage you encounter.

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