DEFINITION OF PERSUASIVE WRITING

PERSUASIVE WRITING is defined as presenting reasons and examples to influence action or thought. Effective persuasive writing requires a writer to state clearly an opinion and to supply reasons and specific examples that support the opinion.

PERSUASIVE PROMPT

Some people think that there should be a limit on the amount of homework teachers can assign each night. Do you think limiting homework is a good or bad idea? Write a persuasive letter to your school board stating your opinion and explaining why you feel this way. Be sure to supply convincing reasons and/or specific examples.
1. Paper #7936984

This Level I response exhibits little understanding of the persuasive writing task. The writer states an opinion at the beginning and repeats at the end (try to help those who want to learn). There is only limited support for this position (children who should and should not receive homework). In addition, any sense of audience and persuasive purpose is lost when an intended letter to the school board clearly becomes an expository directive addressed to teachers, telling them how to proceed (but you as a teacher should not put the child down because he or she does not want to learn).

2. Paper #7937064

The writer takes a pro position (limiting homework), but there is very little support in this brief Level I response. Reasons are vague and lack elaboration (students can't complete all that work; other places to go). Although there is some sense of persuasive purpose, there is little attention to topic development, which indicates little understanding of the writing task.

3. Paper #7961029

In this low Level I response, the writer seems to happen upon a position (homework is a good idea) and gives very minimal support (to learn for a test). The writer then drifts out of mode and presents several ideas about friends, teachers, P.E., and food in the cafeteria, without attempting to provide persuasive support. With so many weak, unclear controlling ideas, this response displays no evidence of an organizational plan and little understanding of the persuasive writing task.
My name is ____ and my reason is I think that there's nothing wrong with giving the children who wants to learn and wants to be successful and wants to make something of themselves. Because I don't think that they should give children who don't want to learn, therefore, don't give the ones who don't want to learn anything any homework. Because they're not gonna do it if they don't want to learn. But as a teacher you should try to teach them that learning is not always bad, so I know that some teachers might not want to teach the ones who don't want to learn. But you as a teacher should not put the child down because he or she does not want to learn. But try to help those who want to learn and make something of themselves!!! And that's my story on why I chose there's nothing wrong with giving 'homework.'
I think that there should be a limited amount of homework for students to complete each night. Students can't complete all the tasks that teachers assigned them to do each night. Some students be having other places to go instead of sitting down doing homework every night. Teachers should give students a least amount of homework each night. Instead of giving a lot of homework for kids to complete in one night. That's why I think limiting amount of homework is a good idea.
Homework is a good idea to learn for the test. School is to learn food is good to eat. I like playing football. It is fun to giving. We won 3 game we does 6 game. School is fun. Homework is to study for test.

School is fun. You make friends. PE is fun to play. Teachers are good to people. PE is nice to people. School is fun. People are nice.

Football is fun to play. School is fun. You make friends. PE is fun to play. Lunchroom is good food to eat. Friends nice to people. I is nice to.

Homework is to learn at school before the test. Teachers are nice. School is fun to learn at school.
This Level II response shows only some understanding of the persuasive writing task. The writer provides a position (a good idea to limit homework) and presents some details in support (when there is seven classes and the teachers give a lot of homework you have to think about six other classes). However, the development is general and wordy, with the overuse of basic-functional vocabulary (it’s really hard when you go home and try to do it you get frustrated and it will take you longer to do it and you won’t get all your homework done). Ideas are loosely organized and very repetitive, which indicates minimal attention to the flow of ideas. These organizational weaknesses demonstrate weak author control, and the response remains only minimally developed overall.

2. Paper #7958206

This Level II response displays evidence of an organizational strategy, which includes an introduction that previews the pro argument, a follow-through presentation of points, and a wrap-up. However, the three reasons selected are quite similar (boring, annoying, less time to have fun), and there is an overlap of support from one point to the next (not fun, makes you mad). This repetition limits the amount of elaboration, leaving the argument only minimally developed. More sufficient development is needed for a higher score.

3. Paper #7924609

This Level II response attempts an elaborate plan in the form of a qualified position (reduce amount of homework from two hours to one, and limit written homework to study hall). The writer supports reducing homework to one hour with a relevant, personal anecdote. However, the next two sections drift off task and mode into a confusing discussion of what to do during study hall and another discussion about the number of weekly tests. This change in focus displays weak author control and limits the amount of development on the assigned topic. Therefore, this response demonstrates only some understanding of the persuasive writing task.

4. Paper #7930137

This Level II response displays some evidence of an organizational strategy. The initial position of limiting homework, however, is interrupted as the writer focuses on why teachers give homework (The first reason is discipline. The second reason why teachers give out so much homework is to see what you know). This second portion of the response, although organized, does nothing to advance the persuasive task at hand. Veering from the assigned topic and mode indicates a lack of author control, and this response shows only some understanding of the persuasive task.
Why do so much homework?

Why is there so much homework? Here's one reason because the teachers are giving too much homework. Limiting the homework on how much to give each night is a good idea. Because when there is seven classes and the teachers give a lot of homework you have to think about six other classes and what to do for homework in them.

Say there are seven classes and two classes have more homework than the others each night. What is there to do when it's not finished and it's due that day? The zeroes would add up and you'll end up failing.

Math class has a lot of homework and it's really hard when you go home and try to do it. You get frustrated and it will take you longer to do it and you won't get all your homework done. When there is a lot of homework and you have one day to do it you have to be smart to do all of it in one day because there is school most of the day and your time is a little bit of the day. There's a reason that there is so
Much homework because the teachers are giving too much of it. When there is seven classes and there is a lot of homework it’s hard. Math class has a lot of homework and it’s really hard. When there is seven classes and a lot of work it’s hard. When there is a lot of homework and there is little time to do it it’s hard.

Please just think about me and how I feel about homework. I feel that there is too much homework and that it is a good idea to limit homework for each night.
To whom it may concern:

I think there should be a limit on the amount of homework. Many children do not like to do homework. I think there should be a limit for homework because it is boring, annoying, and makes less time to have fun.

First of all, I think there should be a limit on homework because it is boring. Homework is boring and it is not fun. Sometimes it may make people get mad. Homework makes a child's life boring and dull. That is a reason I think there should be a limit on homework.

Secondly, I think there should be a limit on homework because it is annoying. Homework is annoying and can make you mad very easily. If I cannot find an answer to a problem it makes me very angry. Homework may put stress on some people. That is the second reason I think there should be a limit on homework.

Finally, I think there should be a limit on homework because I never have time to have fun. A child is all about having fun. If children do not have fun they will always be stressed out and tired. Homework sometimes ruins the chance of having fun. That is another reason I think there should be a limit on homework.

Homework is boring, annoying, and takes less time to have fun. Many children do not like to have homework. I think there should be a limit on homework for kids like me.

7958206-a
Dear school board of education,

Homework is a big strain for us. There should be a limit on homework where you only have to do an hour of it. We should also have time to do all written homework assignments at school so all are homework is to study. There should also be only 1 test a week from each subject. I mean come on we stay at school seven hours and then we have to study 2 hours that’s before.

First off an hour a day which is hard to ask. We like to play sports and do stuff with our life and we go to places almost during the week. Than I get home about 4 after doing my stuff and take a shower and eat. By than its 10:00pm and I don’t want to do homework for 2 hours. I want to go sleep. Could you put this idea into consideration all you have to do is make an announcement.

Second we should have time to do our written homework at school and just study at home. Everyone here would like this so we could bring 2 dollars each and that would equal about $1500 which I think is enough for parts for study hall. Than each class gets 20 minutes a day in study hall and that gets rid of all written homework. All you have to do is Aok it and we will soon have a study hall.
Finally, we should have one test a week for each subject. That only means 5 tests a week and that is not bad at all. We usually have 3 tests each subject a week and that is too much for me to handle and we have to study like an hour for each test. We don't know how to convince the teachers about this one but we know you can convince them so come on help us out.

Well as you see homework is crazy and outrageous. If we all pitch in we could make these ideas work. I mean come on we go to school 8 hours and then we have homework for 2 hours it's ridiculous.
Everyday children around the world come home with a lot of homework mostly everyday. Teachers assign homework to make sure did we learn what they taught that day or their trying to make us get it. I think limiting homework is a good idea because we do a lot of work in school. Once we finished doing our homework we don’t have a lot of time to do the stuff that we want to do. Children mostly think homework is a waste of time cause it is like we just doing the same thing again. Over 1.5 billion students who go to school do not do their homework because they don’t see the need. Teachers always push students to do their homework but they don’t see why do they still have to do it? It is because teachers think homework is discipline. My opinion on the situation is that we have too much to do in the afternoon homework is nothing to us.

I think there are some reasons why teachers give a lot of homework. The first reason is discipline. Teachers sometimes don’t want to give out homework but they do because you are probably being bad in class. You aren’t following direction. And you aren’t listening to your teacher.

The second reason why teachers give out so much homework is to see what you know.
Teachers want you to become the best you can be when you grow up. So they want to see what you learned that day. The third reason is to see what you learned. Teachers teach so much and feel like you’re not listening to you.

Teachers give us homework for all these different reasons. Discipline, to see what you know, and to see what you learned that day.
1. Paper #7927155

This Level III response indicates a good understanding of the writing task, strictly adhering to the persuasive purpose. A satisfactory organizational plan is readily discernible in the introductory preview and concluding wrap-up, with information that builds and connects within clusters, using some transitional elements. The response provides sufficiently developed reasons, utilizing meaningful word choice (more relaxation time; gain more time to work on other assignments and projects). The writer displays a sense of author control with a clear focus on the assigned topic.

2. Paper #7961817

This concise Level III response has a spare, highly persuasive style that focuses on one controlling idea (students may become undereducated if homework is limited). The writer names and uses the line of reasoning that is effectively employed in developing the con argument (simple cause and effect). The negative effects of limiting homework are specific (lower test scores, fewer students, less money, more complaints against the school), which contributes to sufficient development. Although brief, the response shows a sense of audience and purpose, and utilizes the sophisticated persuasive technique of acknowledging the other side before refuting it.

3. Paper #7927325

This Level III response shows a good understanding of the writing task. The writer exhibits a sense of audience and persuasive purpose throughout, with a clearly stated opinion about limiting homework. Support for this position is sufficiently developed with cause and effect elaboration, which contrasts the harmful consequences of too much homework in the first section (too much stress, bored quickly) with the benefits in the second and third sections (more sleep, more focused and energetic kids, less pain). The organizational plan is successful in its presentation of ideas that flow smoothly from one to the next with clarity.

4. Paper #7941991

This Level III response displays creativity in presenting information, especially in the discernible voice of the writer that quickly emerges (all this homework is turning everyone into couch potatoes). The writer employs various strategies to demonstrate a sense of audience, including direct appeal (Teachers, Principals, School Board Officials! the time has come for homework to be shorter!), purposeful tone (I ask you solemnly), and rhetorical questioning (how can teachers sleep when they know that their students are up?). The precise, meaningful vocabulary (top physical condition, nasty effects, excruciating pain) enhances the sufficient development. All of these features combine to demonstrate a good understanding of the persuasive writing task.
I believe that limiting homework is a fantastic idea. Children would have more time to relax. Students could make better grades. In a strange way, they would be inspired to do certain things. Please take some time to read this letter and hear my opinion.

With less homework, students would have more relaxation time. They could finish their work early and get more sleep hours. That would give them more energy for the next day. They also wouldn’t be as tired from thinking as they normally would. However, this is just one of the reasons you should limit homework.

Children could possibly do better in school. They wouldn’t need to work as hard to keep their grades up. They could gain more time to work on other assignments and projects. The students might also pay more attention in school. Putting limits on homework could really do some kids good.

In a sense, kids might also be inspired to do things. They would be encouraged to work harder. They could be inspired to find good jobs when they are older. They might even be happier at school. Less homework would serve students well.

Children and teens could benefit from limited homework in several ways. They would gain more time to relax and sleep. They could maintain better grades in school. In a way, students could
find a form of inspiration from this. Give my opinion a thought before making your choice. It might just change your mind.
Dear School Board,

I think limiting homework may be a bad idea. It may be good in some ways, but I think more problems will occur with this idea. I think more children and teens will say it is the best idea in the world because less homework means more time hanging out with friends or playing video games. I do not think overloading kids with homework is the best idea, but limited homework isn’t either.

The main reason why I think this is a bad idea is because the school could fall behind. Some times kids will have a bunch of homework. If not students may become under educated compared to other students in different schools. If the school falls behind then they will end up with lower test scores and I know that will not be good. If the school becomes lower educated then less people will let their children attend the school. With less students less money. This is simple cause and effect.

Another reason would be if the school has lower test scores constantly couldn’t they get in trouble. Complaints could be filed against the school. Teachers might leave to go teach at a different school. The school could end up being closed down.

A third reason would be think if a student falls behind and can not catch up to the other students because of limited homework is unfair. What if the kids have a dream to get into some high ranking college that would be a hard dream to fulfill if they are under educated.

from,
A student
Dear City School Board, I think that there should be a limit on the amount of homework teachers can assign each night. Most students hate homework. It is boring and makes them miserable if there is a lot. If there was a limit, there might not be as much homework so the students are less miserable. Limiting homework is a good idea; it takes off stress if there is less to think about, allows students to have more free time, and causes less pain for them.

To start with, students have a lot of stress so less homework would take some of that stress off of them. When there is a lot of homework, the students tend to get bored quickly. They become less focused so their grades are likely to drop. Homework makes people tired, which can also lead to a drop in grades. If they could fall asleep and not finish the homework. Also, it makes people feel too overworked so they think they have to do it and they have to make a good grade. There is just too much stress on students.
Next, it allows students to have more free time. More free time lets them play, have fun, and relax. Or, some spend that free time to catch up on their sleep. More sleep makes kids more focused and energetic. Another way to spend free time is to help your parents around the house, doing things like cleaning and laundry.

The last reason for limiting homework is so that the students will hurt less. If students write less, their hands hurt less. If they think less, their head hurts less. And if they stare at a math problem less, thinking of an answer, their eyes hurt less. All of these can hurt a child that is doing extra homework.

So, in conclusion, homework should be limited. It takes off stress, allows children to have more free time, and takes the pain of more work off of students. It has been proven that 90% of those who had less homework did better in school since they were more focused.
Teachers, Principals, school board officials! The time has come for homework to be shorter! Homework is great for our futures but kids need time to play, move, sleep and also the homework leaves cruel and painful effects on your hand after so much homework! My argument is to shorten homework!

Kids aren't going to stay young and healthy forever. Kids are held back from being able to stay in top physical condition because 3 hours of homework hampers them from going outside to play and staying healthy. All of this homework is turning everyone into couch potatoes. So please limit it before it's too late for the students of America!

Earlier I mentioned that kids are losing sleep! The piled up homework is making the students stay up past their bedtime trying to finish it. The less sleep students get the more likely it is that they will lose too much sleep and become unhealthy and sick. Everyone needs
sleep even grown-ups. How can teachers sleep when they know that their students are up while they are sleeping doing their homework? So I ask you solemnly to limit homework.

Homework leaves nasty effects and excruciating pain on one hand from too much homework assigned at school. Sports are really important to kids today, and when their hand is in a cast from too much homework it makes a damper on the kids' ability to play sports. The proper way is to for the sake of sports limit homework.

I hope to see a much needed impact on the amount of homework assigned daily to students. These 3 reasons are why students are so stressed out because they can't relax at home after a hard day's work at school. So please help all students from stressing out from all this. Just barely any homework nonsense, students will be healthier tomorrow if you act today!
In this Level IV response, the writer demonstrates a thorough understanding of the persuasive writing task. With a consistent attention to audience, this competent response addresses the literal wording of the prompt, proposing that the school board limit homework. The writer delivers a thoughtful argument with well-developed support in three areas (more savings, more efficiency, more responsible students). The first and third reasons use cause and effect progression to build depth of elaboration. Specific details enhance breadth of elaboration in the second reason (eighty to one hundred copies, Alabama’s obesity level). At the same time a variety of sentence structures elevates the level of persuasiveness (If that's not the ideal student, a brighter, nicer, more responsible one, then I have no idea what you Board Members are hoping to achieve).

The writer of this Level IV response successfully addresses and controls the assigned task by providing persuasive support for a clear position (Limiting homework is a ridiculous and laughable notion). The thoughtful argument fits together seamlessly, with one point flowing naturally to the next (you limit learning, it will bore the slightly more intelligent, and it could cause grades to drop). This tightly woven progression of ideas displays a strong organizational plan with overall completeness. Development is thorough, and some precise word choice contributes to fluency (a silly notion, hinder the learning process, not overtax them, restrictions). The writer sustains a highly persuasive tone with a strong sense of audience, which conveys a thorough understanding of the writing task.

This skillfully organized Level IV response fashions the persuasive argument as a qualified position, stating the opinion most succinctly at the end (the perfect balance must be acquired). The plan is set up in the beginning to permit the writer to choose points from both sides of the standard debate, and then tailor them into supporting the qualified stand. Although there are a few spelling errors, the writer demonstrates author control by a clear and undistracted focus on comparing and contrasting the benefits and difficulties of both sides, providing the reader with an overall sense of completeness in its logical conclusion.
4. Paper #793680

This highly creative, if sometimes hyperbolic, Level IV response begins with a leisurely lead-up to posing the con stand. The writer then punches out a persuasive argument that follows through on its plan to rely on logic to persuade, as foreseen in its introductory rhetorical question (Is it by fear or by logic many of our supposedly highly debated topics are thought of and fought for?). The writer uses a vivid and precise vocabulary (that would be severely derailed if sinisterly stopped by stupid things such as video games, television and internet messaging) to thoroughly develop the response. A strong persuasive tone is certainly consistent (Homework is practice and practice does as they say make perfect. This is the sole reason students can understand so many complicated subjects). Despite a few misspellings and awkwardly constructed sentences, this response exhibits a thorough understanding of the persuasive task.
Dear School Board Members:

It is a belief of many, including myself, that there should be a limit on the amount of homework a teacher can assign each night. Limiting the amount of homework can save paper, time, and help students to learn how to have more responsibility.

If homework is cut back a little, then the school and families could save money. The less amount of homework, the easier it is on everyone. Teachers could simply write the homework on the board and at the end of class, the students could write the problems down. By doing this, it will save money spent on students' workbooks, paper, and even money spent on pencils because the less homework, the less lead used to write. Also, it is my belief that if we were educated in the classroom a little more efficiently, then only a small review nightly would be needed to refresh our memories of skills learned. Our teachers are doing their jobs correctly, so why do students need an overload of homework anyways?

Another reason I stand by the slogan “The less homework, the better for all!” is how much more efficient having less homework can be. Teachers waste time standing by the copier until the eighty to one hundred copies of homework is completed, when they could be teaching. Also, if the problems given are challenging enough, then a few more complex problems should be chosen over a ton of easier ones. After all, less homework to do lessens time wasted waiting, whereas, you could be exercising. Sitting our Alabama deposit levy is apparently at a horridous rate.

Also, Board Members, you, of all people, should want more responsible students in our school system. Well, with less homework, that carries along less time wasted in class going over it. So instead of...
of having a teacher to drone in monotone reviewing thirty-or-so problems, the more students would pay attention. Without wasting fifteen minutes being bored into the next millennia, they would pay attention and actually ask questions about ones they missed or didn't understand. Besides, the only way to create students who are pepped up by homework is to change it from the ever-growing number of questions to a quartet four. Besides, with the students paying attention and asking questions, test grades would increase. Also, the students would be compelled to return the favor and changing for the better. If that's not the ideal student, a brighter, nicer, and more responsible one, then I have no idea what you Board Members are hoping to achieve!

Overall, limiting the amount of homework students receive would result in saving money, time, and paper. Also, our student population would become kinder to the teachers that understand they have lives outside of school, and test grades, activity grades, and all types of grades, really, would increase. Lessening the amount of homework would provide a change everyone would gain from!
Do you think that we should limit the amount of concepts teachers may teach in one day? This idea is a silly notion, and limiting homework is also. In my opinion, teachers should be allowed to give as much homework as they would like. My reasons for this are that if you limit homework you limit learning, it will bore the slightly more intelligent, and it could cause grades to drop. Limiting homework is a ridiculous and laughable notion.

Some may believe that less homework is beneficial, but I think that it would hinder the learning process. Teachers know how much homework students can handle, and they usually will not overtax them. Homework is very important to the learning process; without homework, you could forget the lesson. When you do homework, you get more in-depth than what you can learn in the short time you have in each class. This is one reason that teachers should not be limited in the amount of homework they can assign.

The more intelligent could become bored in school, stop paying attention, and let their grades drop. If the top students are less motivated, then the rest of the class will follow their example. You need to cater to the
highest level, so more homework could actually raise grades. Less homework, of course, will cause their grades to take a nosedive into the ground. The slightly more intelligent students will not be pushed to do their best if the amount of homework is limited.

If you want the students to have good grades and do well, then you should not limit the amount of homework. If a student only understands the subject learned after having to struggle with it on his or her own, then why mess up the way he or she learns? If one person does badly, then it can hold back the entire class. Homework will help students do better and understand the topic learned.

I believe that we should let teachers decide on how much homework to give. I hope that you agree with me and will not place restrictions on the amount of homework given. My reasons are that it will hinder the learning process, that it will bore some students, and that it will make grades drop. I hope that I have convinced you to agree with my view on this subject.
Dear school board,

I have thought hard about the issue of homework. I think homework is a good thing to some extent but should most definitely be limited. Homework takes away from time pupils can spend with their family and friends and also eliminates time for extracurricular activities. When you combine school and homework they are an average of 30 minutes longer than an eight-hour job. Homework, however, is a good practice for students. Homework should be limited, but not disappear.

Homework is one of few barriers standing between some students and their family time. While family time is going on, most kids have to do homework. How many times has a student said, I can't play soccer, I have too much homework? Not everyone will grow up to be a teacher and those who don't may be engaged in some type of sport that takes much
time and diligent practice. Not only does homework take away from family and extra-curricular time, it adds up to be an eight and a half hour job. When you calculate school in most cases, students are not entirely fond of school, school is teaching them to dislike eight hour jobs. Therefore, less students will be likely to get time-consuming jobs. Homework puts mounds of pressure on younger minds, stressing them.

Despite these two reasons to eliminate homework, you must look at the other side. Homework makes great practice and helps students remember what they did in class that day. Homework serves as a superb study guide before tests or quizzes. Homework teaches self discipline and is a mode way of showing students skills in use later in life.

Homework should be limited for it takes away from family and extra-curricular time. Homework provides an excellent practice on material studied in class. Therefore, homework should not deteriorate from our lives; the effort should be regained. From,

A SINCERE STUDENT

7925050-b
Is it by fear or by logic many of our supposedly highly debated topics are taught or are thought to be taught for? This is just one of the ways to attempt to describe the debate over the so-called homework limit act. Though it may be an easy choice for some, rather "short sighted" to think students who would like wildebeest on the savannah decide the matter based on the immediate thought of less work, while in a practical sense it is a rather difficult choice of what to side with. Whith each side making a very pressing point the most logically sound idea is to not limit a teacher's ability to assign homework as he or she sees fit. Why the very audacity of even beginning to contemplate limiting homework is so completely obvious that it is screaming that we must dismiss the very thought of it, and with good reason as well! For the reasons certainly speak for themselves with all the things that would be sensed to teachers. I mean with behavioral work, extra work to understand a concept, and not to mention keeping up a train of thought through the night that would be severely derailed if sinisterly stopped by several stupid things such as videogames, television and Internet messaging. Just to name a few of the distractions that would drain the I.Q. of students drastically over night.
For many years students have been taught
to behave on the principle of crime and
punishment. As the years have gone by so
have methods of behavioral correction, yet none
have come close to the effectiveness of
extra homework. So if this ludicris idea
was put into work then behavior would be
nothing short of monstrous.

Children also are not known for
catching things the first time they hear
them. This is in my opinion how homework
became the gold center piece of education.
Homework is practice, and practice does as
they say make perfect. This is the sole
reason students can understand so many
complicated subjects. Without homework
failure would be a certainty.

When children come home from
school, the first thing their minds do is
empty them of half the lessons they learned in
school. Homework however keeps their
minds wrapped around these concepts. It keeps
them from losing their reason.

In conclusion: limiting homework will deny students passing grades and
attitudes.