

Extension: Building Arguments

Name _____

Date _____



Review “The 7 C’s of Building an Argument” on *Inquire* page 94. Then read the following persuasive essay and identify its parts by filling in the blanks with the appropriate number from that list.

Time to Learn a Foreign Language

My friend Tony speaks Spanish at home, but he uses English at school. He doesn’t think knowing two languages is anything special, but it is. Being bilingual has many advantages. More young people should learn a foreign language.

To begin with, learning a foreign language opens the door to new cultures. English is only the fourth most common native language in the world. Today’s technology makes it possible to reach out to people in different countries. Knowing a second language helps you communicate with a whole new group of people. In the process, you can better understand and appreciate their culture.

Next, learning a second language helps you advance in school and get jobs. Most high schools and colleges require students to take foreign-language classes. Learning a language now gives you a head start. Also, many jobs require fluency in a second language. Imagine how important it is to understand Spanish in a hospital that serves Hispanic patients!

Some kids say it is too hard to learn another language, but now is actually the best time to start learning. That’s right, studies show the best time to learn new languages is before middle school. Younger learners are more likely to develop better pronunciation skills than older learners. It also puts you on the right track to learn more languages when you get older.

The world seems like it is shrinking. Foreign speakers, restaurants, and businesses are common in American cities, big and small. Computer programs let you talk face-to-face with people oceans away. Don’t get left behind in this global society. If you are already in a foreign-language class, practice hard. If you’re not, start learning a new language today.