**Writing Persuasive Essays**

**Revising** for Order of Importance

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student: |  | Date: |  |

**Organize your reasons.**

Study the following opinions and supporting reasons. Number the reasons in the best order, 1 being the least convincing and 3 the most convincing. The first one has been done for you. (There may be more than one way to arrange the reasons, depending on your own experience and understanding of each topic.)

1. *Opinion:* Our school needs vending machines that offer juice and power drinks.

*Supporting Reasons:*

* The addition of vending machines would greatly improve student morale. **2**
* Vending machines would cut down on tardiness because students wouldn’t have to stop at the store. **1**
* Students who can’t drink milk would have an alternative. **3**

2. *Opinion:* Students shouldn’t use cell phones in school.

*Supporting Reasons:*

* Calls may disrupt classes.
* They may lead to vandalism.
* Distractions like text messages, apps, and games keep the user from learning.

3. *Opinion:* Physical education classes should focus on physical fitness and conditioning.

*Supporting Reasons:*

* Students need to practice healthful living and fitness.
* P.E. classes have little meaning right now.
* Not all students like playing team sports.

4. *Opinion:* We need bike paths throughout the city.

 *Supporting Reasons:*

* The city streets are already busy with car traffic.
* Bike paths make it safer to use bikes.
* Bike paths may increase bike use, which is good for the environment.

5. *Opinion:* Community service promotes good citizenship.

*Supporting Reasons:*

* Community service shows students how their city works.
* It introduces them to all sorts of people, places, and problems.
* It prepares them for the real world.

6. *Opinion:* Every school day should start with 20 minutes of silent reading.

*Supporting Reasons:*

* With daily reading, students begin to enjoy books more.
* Daily reading helps improve the students’ reading skills.
* It gets students ready to learn for the day.