

Infusing a Claim, Authorizing, and Illustrating into a Paragraph

Step #1: Quickwrite on the following: “Bullying. What is your experience with bullying? Have you ever been bullied? Explain. Have you ever bullied someone else? Explain. Have you ever been a bystander? If so, how did you respond? Did you intervene, ignore, watch, egg on the bullying? What are your thoughts and feelings on bullying?”

(Note: remind kids that bantering is not equal to bullying.)

Step #2: As a class, generate possible claims. Examples:

- As a community, we shouldn’t tolerate bullying.
- Bystanders can play an important role in stopping bullying.
- Victims of bullying can learn to avoid bullying.

Ask students to pick a claim they agree with or generate a claim of their own.

Step #3: Distribute Quotes on Bullying handout. Instruct students to read through the quotes and find the quote that matches up best with their claim. Point out how they shouldn’t necessarily pick the quote they like best. (This happened with the third quote.) They are welcome to like a quote, but for this activity they need to pick the quote that best supports their claim.

Step #4: Distribute the Paragraph Example slip. Read through it together. Students should follow the format as they write their own paragraphs:

- First sentence is your claim
- Then write “According to”
- Then copy the bold part that comes after the quote you chose (part that tells about the author) on the Quotes on Bullying handout
- Then open quotes, copy the quote you chose (the italics on Quotes on Bullying), and close quotes
- Then write two sentences that answer the question, “What does your claim have to do with your quote?”
- Write one last sentence that puts your claim in different words