NONFICTION | 2ND & 3RD GRADE | OPINIONS

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

LEXILE®

Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color shown.

believe about greenhouse

red

used by opponents as

orange

yellow

emissions more than

green

no more harmful than

blue

720L

Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Eating Meat is No Worse than Veggies

change. Some of these groups blame
hat livestock raised for people to eat are
r from the truth.



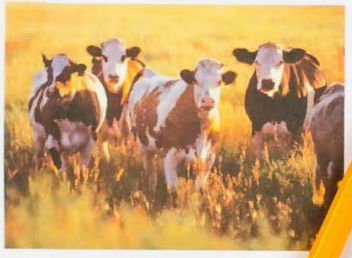
So, before you blame meat, maybe we're asking the wrong question. Perhaps we should ask what other ways we could help the environment.

760L

Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Eating Meat Hurts the Environment

People today are eating more meat than ever. It is delicious, but it's dangerous for our environment. The animals we eat release methane gas when they digest food. This is a big problem. These gasses are called greenhouse gasses. They build up in the atmosphere and trap heat. This causes the average global temperature to rise over time. You may have heard of global warming. This is what people mean when the se that term.



A herd of cattle

Pe can reduce methane gasses by eating meat. Livestock that are raised for humo o eat are a major cause of these gas he United Nations said that livestock c d 18 percent of global greenhouse gas sions every year. By reducing the amount meat we eat, we can help lower reenhouse gasses in the atmosphere.

Livestock farms and companies have claimed that eating a vegetaric diet is more likely to raise greenho gas emissions. That's a silly claim facts remain that lowering the unt of meat that we eat will redu greenhouse gasses. This will with global warming. It's the righ ning to do for the environment.



It's easy to swap out meat with vegetarian options.

MagiCORE

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

2nd & 3rd grade

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Each story includes:

- 1 page of multiple choice and short response questions

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS

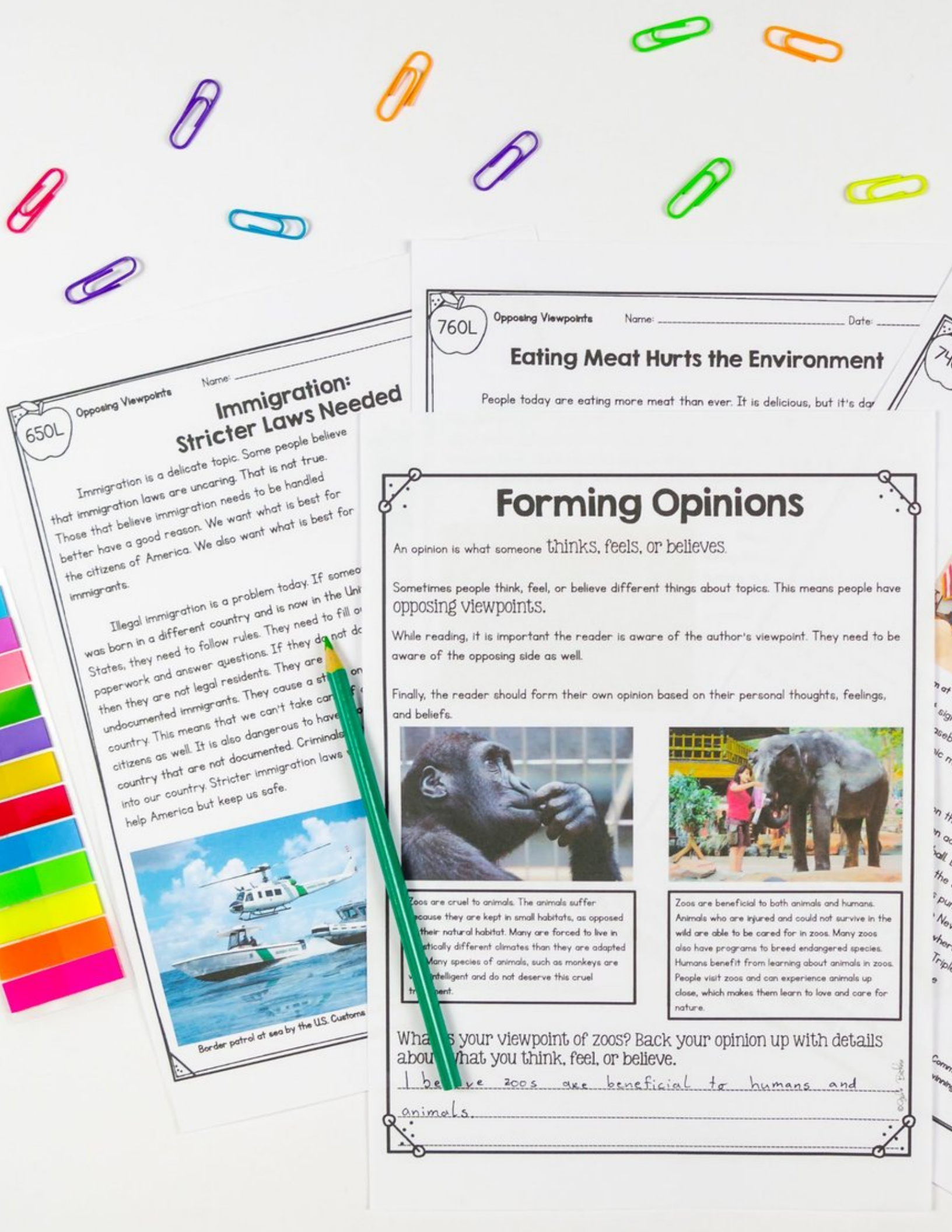
MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	1185L-1385L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."



650L Opposing Viewpoints Name:

Immigration: Stricter Laws Needed

Immigration is a delicate topic. Some people believe that immigration laws are uncaring. That is not true. Those that believe immigration needs to be handled better have a good reason. We want what is best for the citizens of America. We also want what is best for immigrants.

Illegal immigration is a problem today. If someo was born in a different country and is now in the Uni States, they need to follow rules. They need to fill o paperwork and answer questions. If they do not do then they are not legal residents. They are undocumented immigrants. They cause a st on country. This means that we can't take car f citizens as well. It is also dangerous to have country that are not documented. Criminals into our country. Stricter immigration laws help America but keep us safe.

Border patrol at sea by the U.S. Customs

760L Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Eating Meat Hurts the Environment

People today are eating more meat than ever. It is delicious, but it's da

Forming Opinions

An opinion is what someone thinks, feels, or believes.

Sometimes people think, feel, or believe different things about topics. This means people have opposing viewpoints.

While reading, it is important the reader is aware of the author's viewpoint. They need to be aware of the opposing side as well.

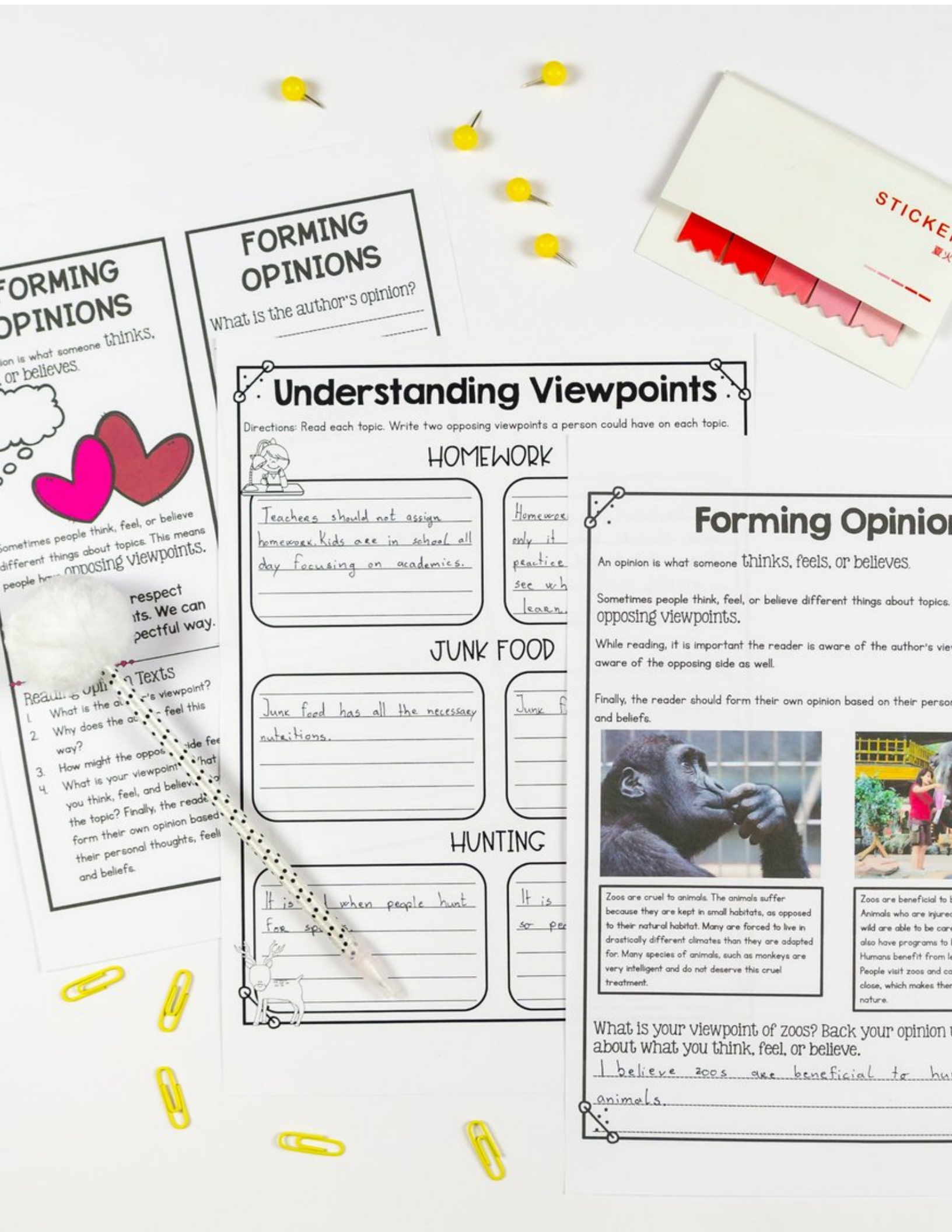
Finally, the reader should form their own opinion based on their personal thoughts, feelings, and beliefs.

Zoos are cruel to animals. The animals suffer ecause they are kept in small habitats, as opposed their natural habitat. Many are forced to live in stically different climates than they are adapted Many species of animals, such as monkeys are intelligent and do not deserve this cruel tr ent.

Zoos are beneficial to both animals and humans. Animals who are injured and could not survive in the wild are able to be cared for in zoos. Many zoos also have programs to breed endangered species. Humans benefit from learning about animals in zoos. People visit zoos and can experience animals up close, which makes them learn to love and care for nature.

What s your viewpoint of zoos? Back your opinion up with details abou hat you think, feel, or believe.

I be ve zoos are beneficial to humans and animals.


FORMING OPINIONS
What is the author's opinion?
Understanding Viewpoints
Directions: Read each topic. Write two opposing viewpoints a person could have on each topic.
HOMEWORK
Teachers should not assign homework. Kids are in school all day focusing on academics.
JUNK FOOD
Junk food has all the necessary nutritions.
HUNTING
Forming Opinion
An opinion is what someone thinks, feels, or believes.
Sometimes people think, feel, or believe different things about topics.
opposing viewpoints.
Zoos are cruel to animals. The animals suffer because they are kept in small habitats, as opposed to their natural habitat. Many are forced to live in drastically different climates than they are adapted for. Many species of animals, such as monkeys are very intelligent and do not deserve this cruel treatment.
What is your viewpoint of zoos? Back your opinion
about what you think, feel, or believe.
I believe zoos are beneficial to hu
animals.

760L

Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Eating Meat Hurts the Environment

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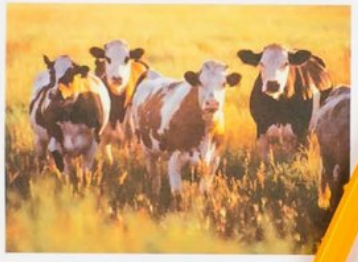

A herd of cattle

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650L Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Immigration: Stricter Laws Needed

Immigration is a delicate topic. Some
that immigration laws are uncaring. That i
Those that believe immigration needs to b
better have a good reason. We want what
the citizens of America. W so want wh
immigrants.

Illegal immigration is a p em toda
was born in a different country is now
States, they need to follow rules. y nee
paperwork and answer questions. hey
then they are not legal residents. T are
undocumented immigrants. They caus st
country. This means that we can't tak
citizens as well. It is also dangerous to
country that are not documented. Crimi
into our country. Stricter immigration law
help America but keep us safe.



Border patrol at sea by the U.S. Customs and Bord

Opposing Viewpoints Name:

Answer the following questions.

1. What does the author of "Immig

The author believes
immigration laws.

2. With which statement would the
a. Immigration laws are unn
(b.) Immigrants add to Americ
c. Immigration is a major pro
d. Diversity weakens our co

3. Which statement from the secon
strengthen the country?
a. "Immigration is a delicate
b. "No one is arguing that A
(c.) "Stricter immigration laws
d. "what we are fighting for

4. The author of which article wou
given the same rights and responsib
a. "Immigration: Let's Loose
(b.) "Immigration: Stricter Law
c. Neither article
d. Both articles

5. Which words from "Immigration
writing is opinion? (Choose all that
a. "No one is arguing..."
b. "delicate topic"
(c.) "We also believe..."
(d.) "It is also dangerous..."

660L Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Immigration: Let's Loosen Up

Have you ever been the new kid at school? Or moved to a new neighborhood? Can you imagine moving to a new country? Being in a new culture? Surrounded by a new society of people? This is what immigrants come across every day.

Millions of people in the United States are immigrants or children of immigrants. An immigrant is someone who permanently moves to a country that is foreign to them. Passing down native cultures in immigrant families is what makes the United States diverse.



Multiculturalism is respect and understanding diversity and differences. It is a society that wants to include different cultures in its way of life. It is important to learn from other cultures. It is important to understand people's way of life. It is important to have a society that accepts the cultures from around the world. The United States should appreciate diverse cultures that make our country great.

Immigration in America is ruled through laws. Many feel there should be stricter laws for immigrants. There need to be laws that limit how many immigrants enter our country. But we should welcome these immigrants with a fair chance at a new life. We should allow them to make a new life in America. Let's loosen the laws to allow more diversity in our country.

How to Teaching Forming Opinions

Teaching students to distinguish opposing viewpoints on a topic, then to determine their own viewpoint is a critical skill. Students need to be able to look at media and understand that news, articles, and television are often swayed by the creator's thoughts, feelings, and beliefs. Students need to be able to recognize these opinions and learn to form their own opinions based on their personal experiences and values.

Topics

I strongly believe that we should not shy away from controversial, polarizing topics, including current events. Students see what is going on in the media. It is important we don't make real topics a taboo and have appropriate discussions about how people believe different things, and this is a wonderful thing.

Model

The best way to teach this skill is to provide real-life examples of opposing viewpoints. Model reading different newspapers or article clips with different viewpoints. Have classroom discussions about how students feel about these topics. Show news media clips from current events. Have a discussion about the different viewpoints displayed. While using these real-life discussions, model and show students the importance of respecting different viewpoints and disagreeing respectfully.

Here are some prompts you can use:

- I respectfully disagree with you because I feel_____.
- I understand _____ is important to you. On the other hand, _____ is important to me.
- I think it was a great point when you said _____. I think _____.
- You said _____. Another point to consider is _____.

Work as a class or in partners to complete the "Understanding Viewpoints" sheet. Allow time for students to brainstorm their own topics that are important to them and interview classmates, practicing using the prompts above.

Differentiation

- If students are struggling with this skill, you may need to revisit distinguishing fact from opinion.
- Allow more time for class discussions.
- Display photographs that show opposing viewpoints. Discuss how people feel differently about the topics.
- Use differentiated passages at individual student levels.

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Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Social Media is Hurting Society

Lots of people use social media every day. Forty percent of the world has at least one social media account. Supporters of social media argue that social media makes connecting easy. They believe it helps relationships. However, some people are against social media. They say it makes people depressed and leads to cyberbullying. Social media is tearing up society. People on social media are more likely to be bullied through social media sites. Social media also puts people's personal information at risk.

Some say that social media sites strengthen relationships. However, those relationships can lead to cyberbullying. Often the "relationships" formed online are not real or honest. They are based on an online personality that might not be real. Social media can cause people to compare their lives to others' lives. What you see is not always what you get.



There is another major issue with social media. It can put people's personal information at risk. Three billion people use online social media. On average, we spend about two hours each day on social media. We share information and pictures. We like different posts. We write comments to people. This makes it easier for hackers to access our personal information. They can use our personal information to do harm.



Social media is hurting society. There is a lack of face-to-face communication. It is wasting our time. It creates very real dangers that paint social media in a negative light.

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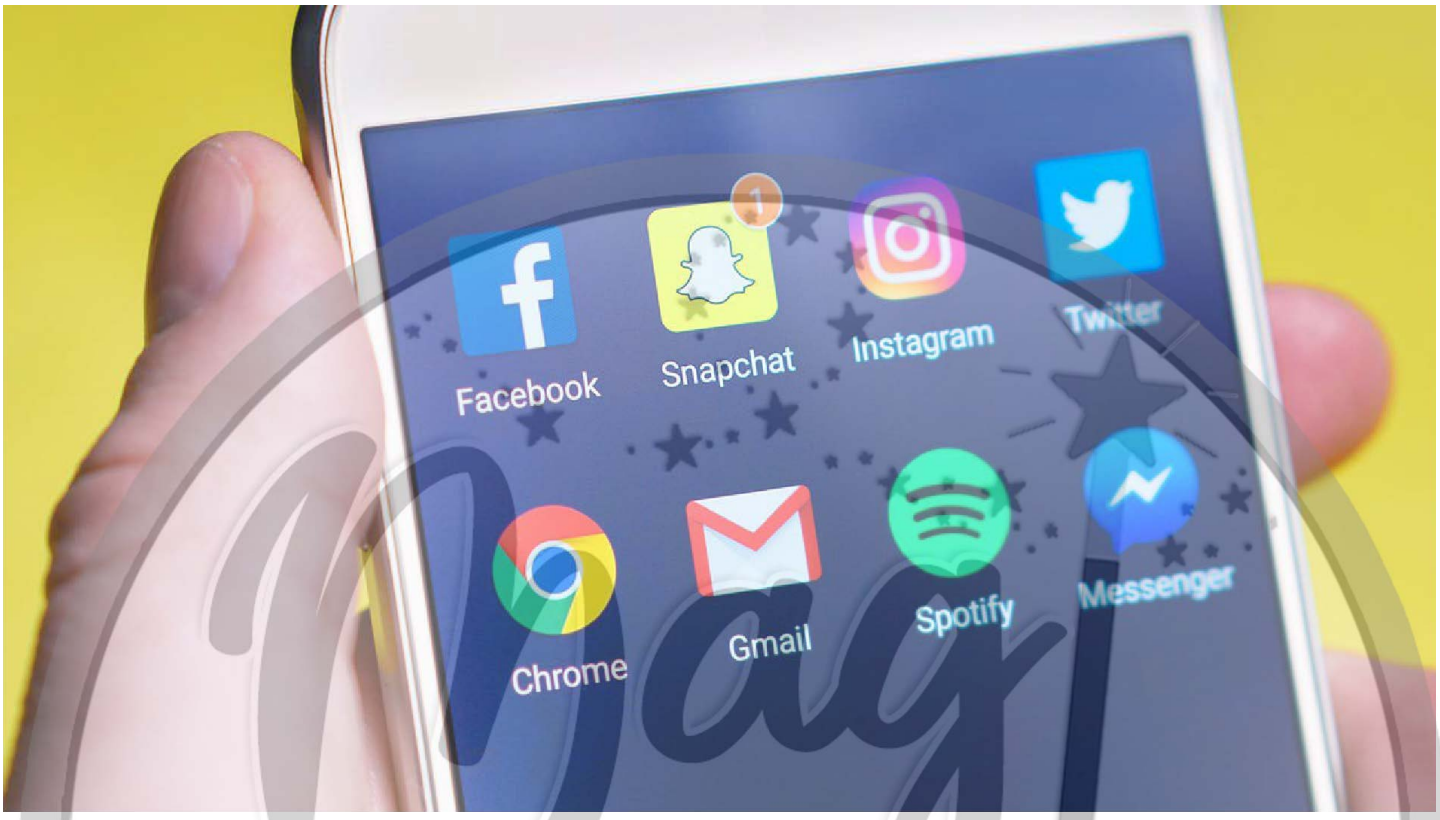
Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Social Media Increases Social Interaction



Social media is everywhere. Most Americans use social networking sites. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat are very popular. These sites help people interact with friends and family. They also help share the news and information quickly.

Social media is the fastest way to spread news. Have you heard of something going "viral"? It's when something online becomes very popular, very fast. This means that breaking news or safety alerts can be shared to anyone, anywhere quickly. In fact, lots of Americans use social media as their news source.

Networking sites also help people connect with others. Many adults and teens use Facebook every day. It helps them connect with family and friends. The best part is it helps people living far apart to stay connected. What a valuable tool!

There isn't much to say about social media that's bad. Sure, it may waste time, but it is very valuable. Plus, people love it! So, the next time you open your social media apps, think of all the great ways they're helping you!

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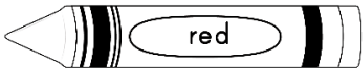
Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color shown.

1. Why did the author of "Social Media is Hurting Society" write the article?



a. To scare the audience.
b. To warn people.
c. To tell a suspenseful story.
d. To entertain the audience.

2. What does the author of "Social Media Increases Social Interaction" want you to think?



a. Social media is good for people.
b. Social media should only be allowed for adults.
c. Social media has little value.
d. Facebook is better for connecting than Snapchat.

3. Which statement from the text helps the reader understand the author's point of view?



a. "Three billion people use online social media."
b. "Some say that social media sites strengthen relationships."
c. "Forty percent of the world has at least one social media account"
d. "People on social media are more likely to be bullied through social media sites."

4.. Which of the following is NOT a fact that the author of "Social Media Increases Social Interaction" uses to support her claim that social media helps people stay connected?



a. "Networking sites also help people connect with others."
b. "Lots of Americans use social media as their news source."
c. "These sites help people interact with friends and family."
d. "Plus, people love it!"

5. Which author do you agree with more, and why?



_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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Opposing Viewpoints Name: _____ Date: _____

My Viewpoint

Directions: Write a letter to the authors of the articles. Explain your stance on the topic. Be sure to include examples, facts, and details about your thoughts, feelings, and beliefs about the topic. Be sure to include some of the following prompts in your letter:

- I respectfully disagree with you because I feel_____.
- I understand _____ is important to you. On the other hand, _____ is important to me.
- I think it was a great point when you said _____. I think _____.
- You said _____. Another point to consider is _____.

Dear _____,

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