

Name _____

Sounds Smart, Isn't

Directions - Read the AI's "expert-sounding" answer below. It uses a very **formal tone** and **fake sources** to sound official - but not everything it says is true. Your job: **spot the words and phrases that make it sound authoritative** (even when it isn't), and then reflect on how tone and language can trick readers into believing false information.



AI's Answer: "Why Students Should Drink Eight Glasses of Water During Class"

According to the *National Hydration Council of Academic Wellness* (2019), students who consume precisely eight glasses of water during school hours demonstrate a 72% increase in academic performance and a notable improvement in test-related endurance. The renowned *Journal of Educational Hydration Studies* (Vol. 14, Issue 3) confirmed these results in a ten-year investigation of middle school hydration habits.

Furthermore, a distinguished panel of hydration experts has concluded that consistent water intake strengthens neural efficiency, allowing the human brain to process information at a superior rate. Schools that fail to provide structured hydration schedules risk significant declines in student productivity, focus, and emotional regulation.

In conclusion, structured water breaks should be mandatory for all students between classes to ensure optimal mental clarity and educational success.

Spot the "Authority Tricks"

Reread the paragraph slowly. Underline or highlight **specific words, phrases, or sentences** that make it *sound official or scientific*. Then, explain why each one gives the illusion of authority - even if it's fake or exaggerated.

Example (start you off): "According to the *National Hydration Council of Academic Wellness*" - sounds real because it uses a long, formal organization name, but that group doesn't actually exist. Now, find three more:

Authority Signal #1: _____

Why it sounds believable: _____

Authority Signal #2: _____

Why it sounds believable: _____

Authority Signal #3: _____

Why it sounds believable: _____