

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Code The Claim

**Directions:** As you read the passage below, write down **annotation codes** in the blanks to mark each statement:

- **C = Claim** - A statement or main idea the author is trying to prove.
- **E = Evidence** - A fact, quote, or example that supports the claim.
- **R = Reasoning** - The explanation or logic that connects the evidence to the claim.

### “Why Parks Matter”

Cities filled with traffic, buildings, and noise can leave people feeling overwhelmed. Green spaces, such as parks, offer a much-needed escape and help improve both mental and physical health. (\_\_\_\_) Studies show that people who visit parks regularly have lower stress levels and better focus at work. (\_\_\_\_)

In addition to emotional benefits, parks play a major environmental role. Trees in city parks absorb carbon dioxide and release clean oxygen, making urban air safer to breathe. (\_\_\_\_) This natural process supports the author’s claim because it shows how green spaces improve life for everyone, not just individuals. (\_\_\_\_)

Furthermore, parks create opportunities for community connection. Whether families picnic, kids play soccer, or neighbors join in weekend clean-up drives, these shared spaces bring people together. (\_\_\_\_) When people connect outdoors, it strengthens social bonds and builds pride in their neighborhoods. (\_\_\_\_) In short, parks are essential for both people and the planet. (\_\_\_\_)