

Name _____

Claim Chain

Directions: Read the argument. Track how the **claim**, **evidence**, and **reasoning** connect in order.



Many high schools should start later in the morning to improve student learning and health. Studies from multiple school districts show that students who start after eight thirty arrive more alert and report higher levels of focus during first period classes. Pediatric sleep research also explains that teenagers experience a natural shift in their sleep cycle, making early mornings biologically difficult for them. When schools ignore this shift, students lose sleep even when they go to bed on time. As a result, later start times support better attention, stronger academic performance, and improved mental health for students.

Main Claim: _____

Evidence: _____

Reasoning: _____

Conclusion: _____

Build the Argument Sequence: Place the argument steps in the correct logical order using numbers one through four.

- _____ A. The biological reason for teen sleep patterns.
- _____ B. The overall position about changing school start times.
- _____ C. The results and outcomes of later start times.
- _____ D. The research findings from school districts.

Logic Check: Answer in complete sentences.

1. Which piece of **evidence** is most directly linked to student attention?
2. How does the **reasoning** connect the evidence to the main claim?
3. What would weaken the argument if it were removed: the research studies or the sleep cycle explanation? Why?