claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer is an essential educational tool designed to help students and professionals alike structure their arguments clearly and logically. This graphic organizer focuses on three critical components: the claim, which is the statement or conclusion being argued; the evidence, which consists of the facts, data, or information supporting the claim; and the reasoning, which explains how the evidence connects to and supports the claim. Utilizing a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer enhances critical thinking skills, improves writing clarity, and facilitates deeper understanding of complex topics. This article will explore what a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer is, its importance in educational settings, how to effectively use it, and practical examples demonstrating its application. Additionally, the article will provide tips for creating and customizing these organizers to suit various academic and professional needs.

Understanding the Claim Evidence Reasoning Graphic Organizer

A claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer is a visual tool that structures argumentation by dividing it into three interconnected parts. Each section serves a unique purpose in building a compelling argument. The claim is the main assertion or conclusion that the user aims to prove. Evidence includes relevant data, statistics, examples, or quotations that back up the claim. Reasoning connects the evidence to the claim by explaining why the evidence supports the claim, highlighting the logical relationship between them.

This organizer is often formatted as a chart or diagram, allowing students and professionals to clearly outline their thoughts. By breaking down arguments into these components, the graphic organizer promotes clarity and helps identify any gaps or weaknesses in reasoning, ensuring the argument is well-supported and coherent.

Components of the Claim Evidence Reasoning Graphic Organizer

The three components work together as follows:

- **Claim:** A clear, concise statement or position on a topic.
- **Evidence:** Information, data, or facts that back up the claim.
- **Reasoning:** Explanation that links the evidence to the claim, showing why the evidence is relevant and supportive.

Understanding these components individually and in relation to one another is fundamental to mastering the use of the graphic organizer.

Importance of the Claim Evidence Reasoning Framework

The claim evidence reasoning framework is pivotal in educational and professional contexts for several reasons. It promotes critical thinking by requiring users to justify their claims with concrete evidence and sound logic. This framework also enhances writing and presentation skills by providing a clear structure for argument development. In science education, it is widely used to help students construct scientific explanations and engage in evidence-based reasoning.

Moreover, the framework fosters analytical skills that are valuable beyond academia, including problem-solving and decision-making in everyday life and various careers. By practicing this structured approach, individuals become better communicators, capable of presenting persuasive and well-founded arguments.

Benefits in Educational Settings

In classrooms, the claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer supports teachers in guiding students toward deeper understanding and mastery of content. It encourages active learning and helps students develop the habit of backing up their opinions with valid evidence. Additionally, it can be used across subjects such as science, social studies, language arts, and even mathematics, making it a versatile instructional tool.

How to Use a Claim Evidence Reasoning Graphic Organizer Effectively

To maximize the utility of a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer, it is essential to follow a systematic approach. First, clearly identify the claim, ensuring it is specific and debatable. Next, gather relevant evidence from credible sources that directly support the claim. Finally, craft reasoning statements that explicitly explain how the evidence validates the claim.

Using the organizer involves filling in each section thoughtfully and revising entries to ensure clarity and logical consistency. This process helps users avoid common pitfalls such as unsupported claims, irrelevant evidence, or weak reasoning.

Step-by-Step Guide to Using the Organizer

1. **State the Claim:** Write a clear and concise statement that expresses your position.
2. **Collect Evidence:** List facts, quotes, statistics, or examples that support your claim.
3. **Explain Reasoning:** Articulate the connection between the evidence and the claim, clarifying why the evidence is valid and relevant.
4. **Review and Revise:** Ensure that each part is logically sound and that the overall argument is coherent.

Examples of Claim Evidence Reasoning Graphic Organizers in Practice

Practical examples illustrate how the claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer can be applied across various disciplines. In science, a student might claim that "Plants require sunlight to grow," support it with evidence such as "Experiments show that plants exposed to sunlight grow taller than those kept in darkness," and reason that "Sunlight provides energy necessary for photosynthesis, which is essential for plant growth."

In social studies, a claim such as "Democracy promotes citizen participation" can be backed by evidence like "In democratic nations, citizens vote in elections and attend town meetings," with reasoning explaining that "These activities allow citizens to influence government decisions, demonstrating participation."

Sample Graphic Organizer Entry

- **Claim:** Regular exercise improves mental health.
- **Evidence:** Studies indicate that individuals who exercise regularly report lower levels of stress and depression.
- **Reasoning:** Physical activity releases endorphins and reduces stress hormones, which contribute to improved mood and mental well-being.

Tips for Creating and Customizing Your Graphic Organizer

Creating an effective claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer involves customization to fit specific needs and contexts. The format can vary from simple three-column charts to more elaborate

diagrams incorporating additional notes or categories. Selecting the right format depends on the complexity of the argument and the audience.

Using clear labels and concise language ensures the organizer remains user-friendly. Incorporating color coding or symbols can enhance visual appeal and aid memory retention. Additionally, digital tools and templates are widely available to streamline the creation process and allow for easy editing and sharing.

Best Practices for Customization

- Adapt the layout to suit different subjects or assignment requirements.
- Use bullet points for evidence to keep information organized and digestible.
- Include guiding questions in each section to prompt deeper thinking (e.g., "What is the claim?", "What evidence supports this?", "Why does this evidence matter?").
- Encourage collaboration by allowing multiple users to contribute to the organizer.
- Review and update the organizer regularly to reflect new information or insights.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer?

A claim evidence reasoning (CER) graphic organizer is a visual tool that helps students structure their scientific explanations or arguments by clearly identifying their claim, supporting it with evidence, and explaining the reasoning that connects the evidence to the claim.

How does a CER graphic organizer improve student learning?

A CER graphic organizer improves student learning by encouraging critical thinking, helping students organize their thoughts logically, and fostering a deeper understanding of how to support claims with evidence and reasoning in both science and other subjects.

What are the key components of a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer?

The key components of a CER graphic organizer are: 1) Claim – a statement or conclusion that answers a question, 2) Evidence – data or observations that support the claim, and 3) Reasoning – an explanation of how the evidence supports the claim using scientific principles or logic.

In what subjects can a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer be used?

While commonly used in science education to develop explanations and arguments, a claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer can also be used in subjects like social studies, language arts, and health to help students construct well-supported arguments and analyses.

Where can teachers find templates for claim evidence reasoning graphic organizers?

Teachers can find CER graphic organizer templates on educational websites such as Teachers Pay Teachers, ReadWriteThink, and various science education platforms, as well as by creating customized organizers using word processing or graphic design software.

Additional Resources

1. *Claim, Evidence, Reasoning: Teaching Argument Writing in Science*
This book provides educators with practical strategies to teach students how to construct well-reasoned scientific arguments using claim, evidence, and reasoning (CER) frameworks. It includes graphic organizers, lesson plans, and sample activities to help students analyze data and articulate their understanding clearly. The approach emphasizes critical thinking and evidence-based writing in science classrooms.

2. *Using Graphic Organizers to Improve Reading Comprehension*
Focused on reading comprehension skills, this book explains how graphic organizers, including claim-evidence-reasoning charts, can support students in understanding and analyzing texts. It offers step-by-step guidance on implementing these tools to help students organize their thoughts and improve their critical reading skills. The book includes reproducible templates and examples for classroom use.

3. *Writing Arguments: A Rhetoric with Readings*
This comprehensive guide to argument writing covers the essentials of constructing arguments with clear claims, supporting evidence, and logical reasoning. It incorporates graphic organizers to help students plan and structure their essays effectively. The book also includes a variety of readings and exercises to develop analytical and persuasive writing skills.

4. *Graphic Organizers for Science Inquiry: Enhancing Student Learning*
Designed for science educators, this book highlights how graphic organizers can facilitate inquiry-based learning and scientific reasoning. It presents various graphic organizer templates, including those tailored for claim, evidence, and reasoning frameworks, to help students make sense of experiments and data. Practical classroom examples demonstrate how organizers improve student understanding and communication.

5. *Teaching Students to Write Effective Arguments*
This resource offers a clear, research-based approach to teaching argument writing using claim, evidence, and reasoning structures. It provides graphic organizers and scaffolded lessons that guide students through the process of developing coherent arguments. The book also addresses common challenges and offers strategies to support diverse learners.

6. *Critical Thinking with Graphic Organizers*
This book explores the role of graphic organizers in fostering critical thinking skills across subject areas. It features a variety of organizers, including claim-evidence-reasoning charts, to help students analyze information and construct logical arguments. Educators will find practical tips and activities designed to engage students in deeper cognitive processes.

7. *Argument Writing in the Classroom: Tools and Techniques*
Aimed at K-12 teachers, this book provides a toolkit for teaching argument writing with an emphasis on the claim-evidence-reasoning model. It includes reproducible graphic organizers and sample lesson plans that support student development of oral and written arguments. The book also discusses assessment strategies to evaluate student progress.

8. *Integrating Science and Literacy: Using Claim, Evidence, Reasoning*
This interdisciplinary resource demonstrates how to integrate literacy skills into science instruction through the use of claim, evidence, and reasoning frameworks. It offers graphic organizers and writing prompts that help students articulate scientific explanations clearly. The book emphasizes the connection between reading, writing, and scientific inquiry.

9. *Visual Tools for Argumentation: Graphic Organizers that Work*
Focusing on visual learning, this book showcases effective graphic organizers to support argumentation and reasoning skills. It covers techniques to help students visually map out claims, gather evidence, and link reasoning in a coherent manner. The book includes examples from multiple disciplines and suggestions for adapting organizers to various grade levels.

Claim Evidence Reasoning Graphic Organizer

Mastering the Claim, Evidence, Reasoning Graphic Organizer: A Guide for Critical Thinking and Effective Communication

This ebook provides a comprehensive exploration of the claim, evidence, reasoning (CER) graphic organizer, detailing its significance in fostering critical thinking, improving argumentation skills, and enhancing communication effectiveness across various academic and professional contexts. It will examine its application in diverse fields, highlight its benefits, and offer practical strategies for its effective implementation.

Ebook Title: Unlocking Critical Thinking: A Practical Guide to the Claim, Evidence, Reasoning Graphic Organizer

Contents Outline:

Introduction: What is a CER graphic organizer and why is it important?
Chapter 1: Understanding the Components of CER: Defining Claim, Evidence, and Reasoning.
Chapter 2: Identifying Strong Claims: Types of Claims, Crafting Effective Claims, and Avoiding Weak Claims.
Chapter 3: Sourcing and Evaluating Evidence: Types of Evidence, Evaluating Credibility, and Avoiding Bias.
Chapter 4: Constructing Logical Reasoning: Types of Reasoning, Building Coherent Arguments, and Identifying Fallacies.
Chapter 5: Visualizing CER: Different Graphic Organizer Formats: Exploring various templates and adapting them to specific needs.
Chapter 6: Applying CER Across Disciplines: Examples from Science, History, Literature, and Everyday Life.
Chapter 7: Integrating CER into Teaching and Learning: Strategies for educators and students.
Chapter 8: Advanced Applications of CER: Debates, persuasive writing, and critical analysis of complex issues.
Conclusion: The enduring value of CER in fostering critical thinking and effective communication.

Detailed Explanation of Outline Points:

Introduction: This section will define the CER graphic organizer, explain its purpose, and provide a brief overview of its benefits in developing critical thinking skills and enhancing communication. It will establish the context and importance of the topic for the reader.

Chapter 1: Understanding the Components of CER: This chapter will thoroughly define each element of the CER framework – Claim, Evidence, and Reasoning – providing clear examples and differentiating them from related concepts. This forms the foundational understanding necessary for subsequent chapters.

Chapter 2: Identifying Strong Claims: This chapter focuses on the crucial aspect of formulating effective claims. It will explore different types of claims (fact, value, policy), discuss the characteristics of a strong claim, and provide guidance on avoiding weak or vague claims. This section will equip readers with the skills to construct compelling arguments.

Chapter 3: Sourcing and Evaluating Evidence: This chapter emphasizes the critical importance of selecting and evaluating credible evidence. It will categorize various types of evidence (anecdotal, empirical, statistical), discuss methods for assessing source reliability and bias, and illustrate how to avoid flawed or misleading evidence. This is crucial for building robust arguments.

Chapter 4: Constructing Logical Reasoning: This chapter delves into the logical connections between claims and evidence. It will explain different types of reasoning (deductive, inductive, abductive), provide strategies for building coherent arguments, and highlight common logical fallacies to avoid. This enhances the persuasiveness and strength of arguments.

Chapter 5: Visualizing CER: Different Graphic Organizer Formats: This chapter explores various formats of CER graphic organizers, from simple three-column charts to more complex diagrams. It will provide examples of each and guide readers on choosing the most appropriate format for their specific needs and learning styles. Visual learners benefit significantly from this section.

Chapter 6: Applying CER Across Disciplines: This chapter demonstrates the versatility of the CER framework by providing real-world examples from diverse disciplines like science, history, literature, and everyday situations. This showcases the wide applicability and importance of CER across different academic and professional domains.

Chapter 7: Integrating CER into Teaching and Learning: This chapter provides practical strategies for educators and students on how to effectively implement CER in the classroom. It includes lesson plans, activities, and assessment methods to promote the use of CER in various learning environments.

Chapter 8: Advanced Applications of CER: This chapter explores advanced applications of CER, including its use in formal debates, persuasive writing, and critical analysis of complex issues. It will demonstrate how CER can enhance critical thinking skills in more challenging contexts.

Conclusion: This section summarizes the key takeaways from the ebook, reiterates the importance of the CER framework in developing critical thinking and communication skills, and encourages readers to apply the learned strategies in their academic and professional pursuits.

(Chapter Content – Example for Chapter 3: Sourcing and Evaluating Evidence)

Chapter 3: Sourcing and Evaluating Evidence

3.1 Types of Evidence

This section will explore the different kinds of evidence used to support a claim, including:

Anecdotal Evidence: Personal stories or observations. While helpful for illustrating a point, anecdotal evidence alone is often insufficient for strong argumentation. We'll discuss its limitations and appropriate usage.
Empirical Evidence: Evidence based on observation or experimentation. This is generally considered strong evidence, particularly in scientific contexts. We'll detail the criteria for strong empirical evidence.
Statistical Evidence: Data presented in numerical form. Proper interpretation of statistics is key; we'll cover common pitfalls and how to interpret data critically.
Testimonial Evidence: Statements from experts or witnesses. The credibility of the source is crucial; we'll explain how to assess expertise and potential bias.
Documentary Evidence: Primary source materials like historical documents, legal records, and official reports. This section will outline how to evaluate the authenticity and reliability of such documents.

3.2 Evaluating Credibility

Assessing the credibility of sources is paramount. This section will outline a process for evaluating sources, including:

Author Expertise: What are the author's qualifications and experience?
Source Bias: Is the source objective or does it exhibit any bias?
Publication Date: Is the information current and relevant?
Peer Review: Has the information been subject to peer review (especially relevant for scientific research)?
Supporting Evidence: Does the source provide evidence to support its claims?

3.3 Avoiding Bias

Recognizing and mitigating bias is crucial. We will discuss common types of bias:

Confirmation Bias: The tendency to favor information that confirms pre-existing beliefs.
Selection Bias: Bias in the selection of participants or data.
Publication Bias: The tendency to publish only positive or statistically significant results.

We will provide practical strategies for identifying and minimizing bias in your evidence selection.

(This section continues for all chapters, providing in-depth content with examples and exercises. The overall tone should be engaging and accessible to a wide audience.)

FAQs

1. What is the difference between a claim, evidence, and reasoning? A claim is an assertion; evidence supports the claim; reasoning explains the link between the claim and evidence.

2. How can I use CER in my everyday life? Use it to make informed decisions, evaluate arguments, and communicate effectively.

3. What are some common logical fallacies to avoid? Straw man, ad hominem, appeal to emotion, etc. (These will be detailed in Chapter 4)

4. Is CER only for academic writing? No, it's applicable in diverse settings, from professional presentations to everyday discussions.

5. What are some effective strategies for teaching CER to students? Use real-world examples, interactive activities, and collaborative learning.

6. How can I evaluate the credibility of online sources? Check the author's expertise, publication date, and look for evidence of bias.

7. What are the different types of claims? Claims of fact, value, and policy. (Detailed in Chapter 2)

8. What are some examples of different CER graphic organizer formats? Three-column charts, flowcharts, mind maps. (Chapter 5)

9. Why is reasoning important in a CER argument? Reasoning connects the evidence to the claim, showing how the evidence supports the claim.

Related Articles:

1. Critical Thinking Skills for Students: An exploration of essential critical thinking skills and strategies for development.

2. Argumentation and Debate Techniques: A guide to effective argumentation and debate strategies, including constructing sound arguments and refuting opposing viewpoints.

3. Effective Communication Strategies: Tips and techniques for clear, concise, and persuasive communication.

4. Types of Logical Fallacies and How to Avoid Them: A comprehensive list of logical fallacies with examples and explanations.

5. Evaluating Sources of Information: Strategies for assessing the credibility and reliability of various sources of information.

6. The Importance of Evidence-Based Reasoning: An explanation of the importance of evidence-based reasoning in decision-making and problem-solving.

7. Using Graphic Organizers to Improve Learning: A guide to using various graphic organizers to improve understanding and retention of information.

8. Developing Strong Thesis Statements: Strategies for crafting clear, concise, and compelling thesis statements.

9. Improving Writing Skills Through Argumentation: A guide to improving writing skills through the use of strong arguments and supporting evidence.

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: *The Knowledge Gap* Natalie Wexler, 2020-08-04 The untold story of the root cause of America's education crisis--and the seemingly endless cycle of multigenerational poverty. It was only after years within the education reform movement that Natalie Wexler stumbled across a hidden explanation for our country's frustrating lack of progress when it comes to providing every child with a quality education. The problem wasn't one of the usual scapegoats: lazy teachers, shoddy facilities, lack of accountability. It was something no one was talking about: the elementary school curriculum's intense focus on decontextualized reading comprehension skills at the expense of actual knowledge. In the tradition of Dale Russakoff's The Prize and Dana Goldstein's The Teacher Wars, Wexler brings together history, research, and compelling characters to pull back the curtain on this fundamental flaw in our education system--one that fellow reformers, journalists, and policymakers have long overlooked, and of which the general public, including many parents, remains unaware. But The Knowledge Gap isn't just a story of what schools have gotten so wrong--it also follows innovative educators who are in the process of shedding their deeply ingrained habits, and describes the rewards that have come along: students

who are not only excited to learn but are also acquiring the knowledge and vocabulary that will enable them to succeed. If we truly want to fix our education system and unlock the potential of our neediest children, we have no choice but to pay attention.

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claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: The Play of Daniel Keyes' Flowers for Algernon , 1993

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: Brown Girl Dreaming Jacqueline Woodson, 2014-08-28 A New York Times Bestseller and National Book Award Winner Jacqueline Woodson, the acclaimed author of Red at the Bone, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse. Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child’s soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson’s eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become. A National Book Award Winner A Newbery Honor Book A Coretta Scott King Award Winner Praise for Jacqueline Woodson: Ms. Woodson writes with a sure understanding of the thoughts of young people, offering a poetic, eloquent narrative that is not simply a story . . . but a mature exploration of grown-up issues and self-discovery.”—The New York Times Book Review

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: *The Omnivore's Dilemma* Michael Pollan, 2015-08-04 This acclaimed bestseller and modern classic has changed America’s relationship with food. It’s essential reading for kids who care about the environment and climate change. “What’s for dinner?” seemed like a simple question—until journalist and supermarket detective Michael Pollan delved behind the scenes. From fast food and big organic to small farms and old-fashioned hunting and gathering, this young readers’ adaptation of Pollan’s famous food-chain exploration encourages kids to consider the personal and global implications of their food choices. With plenty of photos, graphs, and visuals, The Omnivore’s Dilemma serves up a bold message to the generation most impacted by climate change: It’s time to take charge of our national eating habits—and it starts with you.

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: Planning Science Instruction for Emergent Bilinguals Edward G. Lyon, Kelly M. Mackura, 2023-02-24 This practical resource takes educators through a planning process--from selecting standards to designing learning activities--that weaves together language, literacy, and science in ways that are responsive to emergent bilinguals. Drawing on extensive and current research, the authors show how secondary educators can use students' own language and lived experiences, coupled with authentic science practices, to provide rich and relevant language support. Using a science unit as a shared text, readers will learn how to gather rich knowledge about emergent bilinguals, unpack the ideas and language demands of Next Generation Science Standards, strategically embed language and literacy standards in the curriculum, and sequence learning activities around an anchoring phenomenon, a text, and an assessment. In the process, readers will come away with a repertoire of planning tools and examples of how to support emergent bilinguals in using language to collaborate with others and to interpret and produce texts that are central to learning and doing science. Planning Science Instruction for Emergent Bilinguals blends theory and practice so readers understand both how and why this

planning process can be used to disrupt social inequity for emergent bilinguals. Book Features: Describes intentional decisions that educators can make when planning a science unit or learning experience. Shows how to weave together Next Generation Science Standards, Common Core English Language Arts Standards, and language development. Provides a model unit about kelp forest ecosystems to illustrate how theory is translated into practice. Demonstrates how to use emergent bilinguals' assets (linguistic skills, family experiences, personal interests) to create engaging science instruction. Provides a set of planning tools, including both blank templates and completed examples, to guide educators through the planning process.

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: The Most Dangerous Game Richard Connell, 2023-02-23 Sanger Rainsford is a big-game hunter, who finds himself washed up on an island owned by the eccentric General Zaroff. Zaroff, a big-game hunter himself, has heard of Rainsford's abilities with a gun and organises a hunt. However, they're not after animals – they're after people. When he protests, Rainsford the hunter becomes Rainsford the hunted. Sharing similarities with The Hunger Games, starring Jennifer Lawrence, this is the story that created the template for pitting man against man. Born in New York, Richard Connell (1893 – 1949) went on to become an acclaimed author, screenwriter, and journalist. He is best remembered for the gripping novel The Most Dangerous Game and for receiving an Oscar nomination for the screenplay Meet John Doe.

claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: The Words We Live By Linda R. Monk, 2015-08-11 The Words We Live By takes an entertaining and informative look at America's most important historical document, now with discussions on new rulings on hot button issues such as immigration, gay marriage, gun control, and affirmative action. In The Words We Live By, Linda Monk probes the idea that the Constitution may seem to offer cut-and-dried answers to questions regarding personal rights, but the interpretations of this hallowed document are nearly infinite. For example, in the debate over gun control, does the right of the people to bear arms as stated in the Second Amendment pertain to individual citizens or regulated militias? What do scholars say? Should the Internet be regulated and censored, or does this impinge on the freedom of speech as defined in the First Amendment? These and other issues vary depending on the interpretation of the Constitution. Through entertaining and informative annotations, The Words We Live By offers a new way of looking at the Constitution. Its pages reflect a critical, respectful and appreciative look at one of history's greatest documents. The Words We Live By is filled with a rich and engaging historical perspective along with enough surprises and fascinating facts and illustrations to prove that your Constitution is a living -- and entertaining -- document. Updated now for the first time, The Words We Live By continues to take an entertaining and informative look at America's most important historical document, now with discussions on new rulings on hot button issues such as immigration, gay marriage, and affirmative action.

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claim evidence reasoning graphic organizer: The Distance Between Us Reyna Grande, 2012-08-28 In this inspirational and unflinchingly honest memoir, acclaimed author Reyna Grande describes her childhood torn between the United States and Mexico, and shines a light on the experiences, fears, and hopes of those who choose to make the harrowing journey across the border.

Reyna Grande vividly brings to life her tumultuous early years in this “compelling…unvarnished, resonant” (BookPage) story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. As her parents make the dangerous trek across the Mexican border to “El Otro Lado” (The Other Side) in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced into the already overburdened household of their stern grandmother. When their mother at last returns, Reyna prepares for her own journey to “El Otro Lado” to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years, her long-absent father. Funny, heartbreaking, and lyrical, The Distance Between Us poignantly captures the confusion and contradictions of childhood, reminding us that the joys and sorrows we experience are imprinted on the heart forever, calling out to us of those places we first called home. Also available in Spanish as La distancia entre nosotros.

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what subject or grade level you teach. The model, also known as The Hochman Method, has demonstrated, over and over, that it can turn weak writers into strong communicators by focusing on specific techniques that match their needs and by providing them with targeted feedback. Insurmountable as the challenges faced by many students may seem, The Writing Revolution can make a dramatic difference. And the method does more than improve writing skills. It also helps: Boost reading comprehension Improve organizational and study skills Enhance speaking abilities Develop analytical capabilities The Writing Revolution is as much a method of teaching content as it is a method of teaching writing. There's no separate writing block and no separate writing curriculum. Instead, teachers of all subjects adapt the TWR strategies and activities to their current curriculum and weave them into their content instruction. But perhaps what's most revolutionary about the TWR method is that it takes the mystery out of learning to write well. It breaks the writing process down into manageable chunks and then has students practice the chunks they need, repeatedly, while also learning content.

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