

## **EXAMPLE PERSUASIVE THEME WITH COUNTERCLAIM, VERSION 2**

**Prompt:** Choose an issue that is pertinent to saving the environment, and create a claim related to that issue. Write a Persuasive Theme containing at least three major reasons explaining why your claim is correct. Also explain why your claim might be disputed. Write a total of at least 5 paragraphs. Use the MLA style.

TITLE OF PAPER: Biking: A Great Way to Get to Work!

Jean Schumaker

Mr. Renberger

General Science

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### Biking: A Great Way to Get to Work!

As Gabriel is getting ready for work, she puts on her biking shoes, biking clothes, and biking helmet. Is she training for the Olympics? No, this is just her usual routine for getting ready for her commute to work in the city. Into her backpack go her lunch, her high heels, and her wrinkle-free dress. In fact, Gabby is not unique; she is just one of thousands of people who believe in commuting to work on two-wheeled vehicles without motors. They believe that despite the drawbacks, biking is not only an efficient way to get to work, but it keeps them healthy while saving the environment.

Naturally, the time commitment is one reason people choose not to use a bike to commute to work. With reason, they complain that biking to work takes more time than driving a car. Even a short trip can take less time by car than by bike. Of course, cars can travel faster than bikes. If people have a long commute over open highway, driving a car saves lots of time. Nevertheless, bikers claim that biking can actually save time. For example, they say that riding a bike gives the rider a lot of flexibility to move through traffic snarls. When they encounter a traffic jam or an accident, they can quickly take another road. They do not get stuck in traffic. Also, bikes take up little space, are easy to maneuver, and can weave through bumper-to-bumper traffic easily. They can travel down the side of the road or even on a sidewalk if the law allows. As a result, bikers are more likely to get to work on time than drivers.

Another reason people provide for choosing a car for commuting to work is that biking can be tiring and energy draining. They do not like the thought of arriving to work exhausted after their commute. However, bikers believe that the daily exercise of biking is invigorating and will keep them young. They arrive at work feeling energized and ready to work hard. Additionally, they report that being outdoors instead of locked in a car fighting traffic helps them have a fresh outlook on the day. They say that they feel healthy and have fewer colds and other health problems.

Probably the most frequent reason people give for not commuting to work is that it is not personally convenient. They do not want to change clothes when they get to work, and they do not want to carry their belongings. On the other hand, bikers believe that a little personal inconvenience is worth the price for saving the environment for everyone currently in the world and for the children yet to be born. By biking to work, they not only save themselves the money they would use to pay for gas, they also reduce pollution because bikes do not create exhaust fumes. As a result, the ozone layer is not depleted, and global warming is less likely to occur.

To conclude, Gabriel's commute to work on her bike produces many benefits. She gets to work on time because she can move around and through traffic jams quickly and easily. She arrives at work feeling energized and good about the fact that she has done her daily exercise. She stays healthy while saving money and time. She can also feel good about doing her part to save the planet. She knows that many people who say biking takes too much time, makes them tired, and is not convenient are just making excuses. Obviously, she understands that those people who have very long commutes on major highways that flow smoothly have a reason to drive their cars. She wonders whether they should consider

living closer to their work place. For those who have short, congested commutes, she knows that the benefits outweigh the inconvenience. In fact, based on all the benefits associated with biking to work, Gabby wonders how can anyone not find a way to use a bike, at least for part of the time?