

Persuasive Homework

Date: _____

Name: _____

For homework tonight, you are first to choose a letter to the editor from the Valley News or some other newspaper. Try to pick a letter that you understand: you know what the issue is that the letter is talking about. Then you are to read the letter and write a one-page evaluation of the letter determining how effective you think it is. Use the list of parts of a persuasive piece that we developed to help you evaluate the letter. Write your evaluation on the computer or a piece of notebook paper.

Here are some helpful questions:

- What are the letter's strengths?
- What are its weaknesses?
- Is the position clear?
- Did the writer use good reasons and give helpful details?
- Did the author consider problems with their position and come up with solutions?
- Was the beginning strong?
- How was the ending?
- How was the tone (language) of the piece?
- What was the best part of the letter?
- What could the author have done to make the letter stronger?