

DRAAW+C

What is it?

DRAAW+C is the thinkLaw writing framework. Thinkers apply the method to write an argumentative writing piece. The structure can be used to write a paragraph or essay but can also be used as a quick response or exit ticket.

Why should you use one?

- DRAAW+C ensures that thinkers consider and present both sides of an argument.
- Asking thinkers the impact their decision has on the world automatically increases the rigor of their thinking to the same level as the Supreme Court! Decisions are not made in isolation, and the far-reaching consequences should be considered.

Examples of premade thinkLaw Lessons

We do not make thinkLaw legal writing lessons explicitly for early elementary. The framework is embedded within the lessons by asking thinkers to consider two sides to an argument and the impact of a decision.

Upper Elementary

[Here's Your Sign](#)

[Monkey Business](#)

Secondary

[Game Changer](#)

[Equal Rights Amendment](#)

Strategy Instructional Video

<https://youtu.be/XuMdK1RptE0>

How to Use DRAAW+C

How do we want our thinkers to write and think?



The thinkLaw program uses the acronym DRAAW+C to help thinkers organize their writing. DRAAW+C can be used to write about any topic.

D	What is your decision?	Thinkers may reach any conclusion. The most important part of their response will be their justification.
R	What is the rule or law?	The rule or law may be explicit, but it may not be clear. What is the historical precedent? What is the social norm?
A	What is the best argument and evidence for the plaintiff?	Thinkers should brainstorm arguments from both sides of the issue. Thinkers should determine the BEST argument or evidence for each side to use in their final response.
A	What is the best argument and evidence for the defendant?	

W	What impact will this decision have on the world?	<p>Asking students about the impact a ruling will have on the world takes this process to a level of rigor that extends all the way up to the Supreme Court.</p> <p>Every ruling will affect future rulings, even if the case seems silly. If thinkers get stuck on this larger impact of the case, ask them, "What would the world look like if _____?" The impact could be positive or negative depending on the thinkers' position.</p>
C	Conclusion	

DRAAW+C Template

D	Decision	
R	Rule or Law	
A	Argument and Evidence for the Plaintiff	
A	Argument and Evidence for the Defendant	
W	What impact will this decision have on the world?	
C	Conclusion	

Sample DRAAW+C Across Curriculum

ELA	Math
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is the worst villain in this novel? Use the DRAAW+C Framework in your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers could define the term “villain.” Which format is the most effective when sharing a complaint: a letter or an email? Use DRAAW+C in your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers could explain why a consumer would want to communicate with a company. What is the end goal? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the best way to solve a system of equations? Use DRAAW+C in your response? For the “rule” section, thinkers could explain why you need to select a system. What problem are you trying to solve? Which is better? Using a bar model or using computation to solve a word problem? Use DRAAW+C your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers could explain why word problems are different than a simple math problem.
Social Studies	Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who was the most influential African American inventor and why? Use DRAAW+C in your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers could establish the criteria for being influential. Does dropping the atomic bomb make Truman a war criminal? Use the DRAAW+C Framework in your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers can list the criteria for war crimes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the strongest arguments you could use to convince a “Flat Earther” that the Earth is round? Use DRAAW+C in your response. What was Newton’s greatest accomplishment? Use the DRAAW+C framework in your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers can describe the discovery.
Electives	SEL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should skateboarding be an Olympic sport? Use the DRAAW+C framework in your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers can describe how Olympic events are determined. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe a scenario where a student gets into trouble at school. What should happen to that student? Use DRAAW+C Framework to explain your response. For the “rule” section, thinkers can reference the school rule or policy.

Sample DRAAW+C Lesson: **What is Newton's Greatest Accomplishment?**

Grade	6
Unit/Chapter	Unit 3, Chapter 1

Developed from a district's pre-existing curriculum

Do Now/ thinkStarter	What do you know about Isaac Newton? Take 1 minute and write down everything you know.
Guided Practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Give thinkers sorting cards. The cards show some of Newton's most famous works. 2. Have thinkers sort and rank the cards. You may use the prompts listed below or write your own. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rank Newton's work from most famous to least famous. Why did you pick that order? • Rank Newton's work from most important to least important. How is this rank different from the most famous sort? • If you had to get rid of half of the discoveries, what would you eliminate? Sort the cards into two groups. What would you get rid of? Why? Why would you keep the items you selected to keep? • Select the top three most impressive discoveries. Why did you choose these three? • If you could ask Newton questions about two discoveries, which two would you choose? What questions would you ask? Why are the answers to those questions important? 3. After each sort, have the class defend the way they arranged the cards. Play devil's advocate. As thinkers to explain their reasoning. 4. Read Chapter 1. 5. What was Newton's most important work? Use the DRAAW+C framework to explain your reasoning.
Independent Practice	Thinkers will rank and sort cards. They will defend their thinking.
Probing Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you heard about these discoveries before? Where have you seen them? Why do you think they are so famous? • How long ago were these discoveries made? What technology did Newton have access to? Do you think it's impressive that we still use his formulas today?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who do you think will be the “Newton” of our day? Who is making innovations that people will learn about hundreds of years from now?
Exit Ticket	What was Newton's most important work? Use the DRAAW+C framework to explain your reasoning.

D	Decision: What was Newton's most important work?
R	Rule: Describe that discovery
A	Argument: What is the best argument that this is the most important discovery?
A	Argument: What is the best argument that this is NOT the most important discovery?
W	World: What would the world look like if this discovery did not exist? How would science or math be different?
C	Conclusion

My Plan for Using DRAAW+C

Where in your curriculum are opportunities for thinkers to write persuasively.

Opportunity for Persuasive writing		
D	Decision	
R	Rule, Law, Definition	
A	Argument and Evidence for One Side	
A	Argument and Evidence for the Opposite Position	
W	What Impact Will this Decision Have on the World?	
C	Conclusion	