

Your task:

1. Read both sides of the argument about building the Muslim Community Center.
2. As you read annotate the text by putting a “P” next to parts of the text that are ‘pro’, that you feel are important pieces of evidence. Put a “C” next to parts of the text that are ‘con’, that you feel are important.
3. After you read, you will write an essay answering the question: “Is it appropriate to build a Muslim community center near the World Trade Center site”?
4. In your essay make sure you:
 - Explain the two sides to the issue and provide evidence for both
 - Take a position and state your claim for, “Is it appropriate to build a Muslim community center near the World Trade Center site”?
 - Use evidence to support your claim
 - Explain your reasoning, how does your evidence support your claim
 - Write a conclusion that includes a summary of why you think or don’t think it is appropriate to build a Muslim community center near the World Trade Center site”
 - Reread your letter and add editing marks where you believe the letter needs editing
5. If you have extra time, you can rewrite and publish your final essay.

Standard W.8.1

1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
 - a. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
 - b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
 - c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
 - d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
 - e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.