

Support Your Opinion

When you state an opinion in writing, make sure to **support your opinion** with reasons. An opinion without strong supporting reasons is like a chair without strong supporting legs. The opinion and the chair will both fall down!

Opinion Everyone should participate in sports.

Support Regular exercise is good for us. We learn about teamwork.

Opinion Dogs are more than just pets.

Support Dogs keep people from being lonely. Dogs do important jobs.

Directions Circle the number of any sentence that supports the opinion stated in sentence 1.

(1) The *John Ena* was a great place to grow up. (2) This four-masted sailing ship was over 300 feet long and 48 feet wide. (3) The children had loads of games to play and made friends with members of the crew. (4) Just sailing from port to port was a geography lesson in itself. (5) The children also learned about navigation and the stars from their father. (6) They did not enjoy going to school on land. (7) There was plenty of fresh air and good food on the *John Ena*. (8) Of course, some people got really seasick in rough weather. (9) And once a favorite pig fell into a bucket of hot tar. (10) The family had wonderful opportunities for fun and learning aboard the *John Ena*.

Directions Each statement below gives an opinion. Write three supporting reasons for each opinion. **Possible answers:**

11. Summer is better than winter.

There is much more daylight in summer than in winter. The weather is comfortable. There's no school in the summer.

12. It is important to go to school.

You won't get a good job without an education. Everyone has to read. Going to school is the law.