

Cross-Curricular Argumentation Guide B

Name:	Date:	Class:	Topic: Face masks prevent spread of virus
<p>1. Clarify the claim with any qualifier and define key terms (including author, date, source, era). Community use of multi-layer cloth face masks will prevent spread of a virus. Author: CDC website Date: 11.10.2020 Source: information from 42 scientific studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC - Center for Disease Control and Prevention – a government agency in charge of public health • asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic - infected people who feel well and may be unaware of their ability to infect others 			
<p>2. List the evidence (facts, data, authority, theory, precedent). The CDC cited the following data from multiple scientific authorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data from 4 studies showed that multi-layer cloth masks block release of exhaled respiratory particles carrying a virus. 2. Data from 2 studies showed that 50% of virus spread is due to asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic people. 3. Data from 14 studies showed that up to 50% of virus particles can be filtered from inhaled air by an effective mask and 1 study showed that some masks materials repel droplets. 		<p>4. Analyze the reasoning (cause-effect, correlation, generalization).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since studies show a cause-and-effect relationship between the quality of masks and effectiveness of blocking virus particles, everyone should use a multi-layer cloth mask at minimum to protect others. 2. Since studies show a cause-and-effect relationship between virus spread and people who do not have symptoms, we can generalize that everyone needs to wear a mask to protect others. 3. Since studies show a cause-and-effect relationship between wearing a mask and the filtering or repelling of virus particles, we can generalize everyone needs to wear a mask to protect themselves. 	
<p>6. State why you accept or reject the claim. Based on the excellent scientific evidence that shows a cause-and-effect relationship between mask wearing and preventing the spread of a virus, I accept this claim.</p>		<p>4. Identify other arguments for or against the claim (rebuttal, counterargument, corroboration). A study of an outbreak aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier where people worked and lived close together found that use of face coverings on-board was associated with a 70% reduced risk of getting a virus. This corroborates the claim.</p>	
<p>5. Make a judgment about quality of evidence (accurate, adequate, objective, relevant), reasoning (type of reasoning), and other arguments. The evidence is excellent CDC-cited data from multiple scientific authorities. The reasoning shows a cause-and-effect relationship between wearing an effective face mask and reducing the spread of a virus. Since this was true for the studies, we can generalize that mask wearing would protect the public from the spread of a virus. The USS Theodore Roosevelt case study corroborates the claim.</p>			