

Cross-Curricular Argumentation Guide A

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____ Topic: Homeowners Should Install Solar Panels

<p>1. Clarify the claim with any qualifier and define key terms. Installing solar panels in a home is a good energy decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solar panel - a device designed to absorb the sun's rays to generate electricity • solar renewable energy credits - power companies buy credit for homeowners' energy production to meet state green energy requirements • net metering - a system in which homeowners are given future credit for energy that is produced but not used at the time <p>2. List the evidence.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When you install solar panels on your home, you generate your own electricity. 2. Recent studies found that property values increase after solar panels are installed. 3. Solar renewable energy credits (SRECs) and net metering allow you to earn bill credits or cash. 4. Over the last 10 years, the cost of solar panels has dropped by over 70% while the cost of electricity as risen by about 5%. 5. Solar energy does not cause air or water pollution like fossils fuels or nuclear energy. 	<p>3. Analyze the reasoning.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solar panels can reduce or eliminate your electric bills for their 25-35-year lifespan. 2. Solar panels may improve the value of your home for resale. 3. Solar panels can pay you money for the extra energy produced by your system. 4. Solar panels give you control over rising energy costs. 5. Solar panels protect the environment.
<p>4. Identify other arguments for or against the claim. The Energy Independence and Security Act (Public Law 110-1400) passed in 2007 moves the United States to rely less on energy sources from other countries and to increase production of clean fuels. Use of solar panels helps meet these goals.</p>	
<p>5. Make a judgment about the quality of evidence, reasoning, and other arguments. The evidence is good quality because it gives facts about solar panels. The reasoning is good because it applies the evidence to the claim. The argument for energy independence is a great reason from more people to use solar panels.</p>	
<p>6. State why you accept or reject the claim. I accept the claim based on the evidence and reasoning. The Energy Independence and Security Act corroborates the decision to install solar panels on homes.</p>	