

Course: Chemistry	Grade Level: 10 and 11
Type: Argumentative	Structure: Analysis
<p>Teaching Task 2: Should energy drink purchase and consumption be regulated by government agencies? After reading a selection of texts provided by the teacher, write a persuasive letter to an FDA regulator that addresses the question, using evidence from the texts to support your opinion. L2 Be sure to acknowledge opposing views concerning the need for regulation. L3 Give examples from past or current products that the FDA has regulated and those it appears not to regulate.</p>	
Performance Level: Not Yet	

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing you letter, as a shopmore in high school, to state that people under the age of 18 should be limited to a certain amount of energy drinks in one day. I say this because the amount of caafeine in one can of an energy drink is huge. Take Monster Energy XXL ® for example: It has 80 mg. of caffeine per serving and in each can has three servings. That's 240 mg. of caffeine. This is just simply to much caffeine for a minor to take in, in one day. Back to what I said: People under the age of 18 should be limited to a certain amount of energy drinks per day just avoid injury because smaller and younger kids would not be able to handle all of that caffeine with suffering an injury.

We can solve this problem by simply just asking for ID at shores that distribute these energy drinks. That way, if they are under 18, the patrons at the store can keep track of how many energy drinks the kids are having.

Sincerely yours,

Annotation		
Focus	1	The writer attempts to address the main aspect of the prompt as stated: Should energy drinks be regulated by government agencies? The majority of the prompt, however, is not addressed. Opposing views and past or current banned products/unregulated products are not addressed.
Reading/Research	1	It is not clear that the writer has read any information on the topic of energy drinks. The information in the letter appears to have come from looking at a label: <i>It has 80 mg. of caffeine per serving and in each can has three servings.</i>
Controlling Idea	1	The writer attempts to present a thesis, but the effectiveness of argument is minimal in that no research exists to support the claim that energy drink quantity should be limited for those under the age of 18. No counter claims are provided.
Development	1	The writer offers one piece of supportive evidence but fails to examine or develop it. Most of the statements made by the writer are unsubstantiated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>240 mg of caffeine [. . .] is simply too much caffeine for a minor to take in, in one day.</i> • <i>People under the age of 18 should be limited to a certain amount of energy drinks per day just avoid injury because smaller and younger kids would not be able to handle all of that caffeine with suffering an injury</i>
Organization	1	The writer fails to organize content and argument. The same points are repeated: <i>people under the age of 18 should be limited to a certain amount of energy drinks each day [...]</i> Back to what I said: <i>People under the age of 18 should be limited to a certain amount of energy drinks per day just [...]</i>
Conventions	1	The letter contains numerous errors in sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation that affect the readability of the essay: <i>I am writing you letter, as a shopmore in high school.</i> Statistics are used without citation.
Content Understanding	1	The student attempts to use disciplinary content in the argument but understanding of the content is very limited. The brevity of the letter prevents further assessment of content understanding.

This student would benefit from feedback, discussion, and/or instruction in the following areas:

- Developing a clear thesis statement
- Using research to support arguments
- Organizing ideas in a logical format
- Using more precise, academic language
- Using appropriate conventions