



## PURPOSE

To give teachers an example of a “3” level of achievement on a ThinkCERCA assignment.

## TEXT

### Peanuts in Schools: Is a ban best?

## CERCA QUESTION

Is a complete ban on nuts the best way for schools to address a nut allergy?

## EXAMPLE STUDENT ESSAY

Not a bad introduction, but you need to be clearer about what the topic is. Also, state a definite opinion in the introduction about what YOU think. Express your opinion CLEARLY so that readers know what to expect in the rest of the paper.

This should be reworded. Something like, “He is very allergic to them.”

Don't include unnecessary word (like). We often use words when we speak that shouldn't be written.

This isn't a complete sentence.

Be aware of the subject of your sentence. “Other people” is the subject, so “like Nick’s school” should have commas on both sides of it, and the verb should be “don’t.”

Good use of evidence, but it doesn't seem to fit in this paragraph.

Good reasoning to support a claim that schools should ban nuts.

Good support for your claim.

Good support for your claim.

Some children are very allergic to peanuts, like Nick Williams. He is allergic to them bad. He could die if he ate them. His mom thinks peanuts should be banned from schools. Other people, like Nick’s school doesn’t agree.

The National Institute of Health says 5% of American children have food allergies. Kids need to be protected from foods that will make them sick. Nick’s school has a separate room where kids with allergies can eat. I don’t think this is very fair, that kids with allergies have to eat alone. They probably want to eat with their friends. Nick’s mom wants the school to ban peanuts completely, but the school won’t.

But the school shouldn’t have to ban peanuts, just because a few kids are allergic to them. They could like test class treats to see if they have things in them that kids are allergic to. That would make people more aware of food allergies, and that would make more sense.

Because a kid could bring a granola bar to school and not know it had peanuts in it and another student could get sick because of it.

# CERCA Set: Government and Health

## Worked Example, 4



ThinkCERCA™

Capitalize last names.

Dr. fineman agrees that schools shouldn't ban peanuts. He says the child and his teacher have to pay attention to keep kids with allergies from getting sick, not the school. So there's no reason for schools to have to ban peanuts. Besides, if kids eat only what they bring from home, they won't get sick anyway. So other kids should be able to eat whatever they want. A few peanuts now and then won't be that bad, as long as Nick doesn't eat too many of them.

This isn't exactly what he said. Perhaps you could include his exact words in a quote so readers would know exactly what he said.

Logical reasoning that supports a claim that nuts shouldn't be banned.

This could be worded better. Kids are allergic to foods and other things, but not "allergies."

Kids are allergic to lots of different allergies and it would be super hard to keep everything away from kids that they are allergic to so why should only kids who are allergic to peanuts be protected by not letting any other kids have peanuts in schools? Nick is just going to have to be careful what he eats.

There is no evidence that this is true. In fact, if his allergies are very bad, even one peanut may be harmful. Be sure you can support any claim you make with statements from the text.

"Super" is not an adverb. Use this only as an adjective. Example: "That's a super idea!" but not "That's a super cool idea!"

Your conclusion should include a clear restatement of your opinion about whether nuts should be banned.

This is a run-on sentence. Separate it into several sentences, each with its own idea.