

Name: _____ Date: _____

You Write It

Turning an Infographic Into a Persuasive Letter

Directions: Read the infographic about spicy food. Then follow the steps below to write a letter to the owner of Scope Bistro about whether she should or should not add spicy dishes to its menu—and if she should, how spicy those dishes should be.

1 Write a sentence that states the central claim of your letter.

CLAIM

2 Look at the information in the infographic. In the box below, list the information that supports your claim about whether the owner of Scope Bistro should add spicy dishes to the restaurant's menu.

SPICY FOODS

3 If you are arguing that Scope Bistro should add spicy dishes to the menu, explain how spicy those dishes should be and why. Support your ideas using information provided in the infographic.

HOW SPICY?

4 It's time to start crafting your letter. **Use a separate piece of paper and follow these guidelines:**

Beginning:

- Your first sentence should be a hook—that is, it should grab your reader's attention and immediately interest her in your letter. Your hook can be a surprising fact, a compelling or amusing anecdote—anything that will immediately engage your reader.
- After your hook, present your thesis statement. Your thesis statement is a sentence that tells your reader what your letter is going to be about—in other words, your central idea. In argument writing, the thesis is where you make your claim and briefly state the details that support it.

Middle:

- Explain to the owner why you think Scope Bistro should or should not add spicy dishes to the menu, using the information you wrote in Step 2.
- If you think Scope Bistro should add spicy dishes to the menu, explain how spicy those dishes should be and why, using the information you wrote in Step 3.

End:

- Conclude your letter with a strong sentence that will give the bistro owner something to think about.

Writing Tips!

- Use transition words and phrases so your ideas flow smoothly from one to the next.
- Vary the length and structure of your sentences to keep your writing lively.
- Make sure the information you are providing supports your central claim.
- Read your first draft carefully. Is there anything you could express more clearly or in a more interesting way? Incorporate any changes into your second draft. Proofread your second draft, checking for incorrect spelling, as well as punctuation and grammar errors.

Note: *Scope* does not accept Google Docs. If you are e-mailing your entry, please send a .pdf or .doc file.

Spicy Contest

The owner of the Scope Bistro wants your opinion: Should she add spicy dishes to the menu—and if so, just how spicy should those dishes be? Write a letter explaining your point of view.

Support your ideas with details from the infographic.

Five winners will each get a \$25 Visa gift card.

Entries will be judged on:

⇒ creativity

⇒ grammar

⇒ clarity

My name: _____

My home phone number: _____ My grade: _____

My teacher's name : _____ My teacher's e-mail: _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

School phone number: _____

My parent or legal guardian consents
to my participation in this contest.

Parent's or legal guardian's signature: _____

Include this sheet with your contest entry and send both to: scopemag@scholastic.com

Or mail to: Spicy Contest, c/o *Scope*, P.O. Box 712, New York, NY 10013-0712

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY March 15, 2019!