**TheResearchPaper**

# Instructions:

Suppose that you are working on a project where you are attempting to answer the following research question: ***What impact will new class size laws have on high schools?***Two of the sources you have found on the topic are Source A and Source B (below). In your response, evaluate these two sources. Be sure to examine their credibility and their relevance to your research question. Your response should make a clear argument, use transitions to move between ideas, use specific details from the sources, maintain a formal style, and include a concluding statement.

# Source A:

**"New Education Laws Passed" by Jim Jonathan, *City News*, March 15, 2012, page 1.**

Yesterday, lawmakers passed a series of changes to legislation affecting the state's schools. The new laws will alter the ways schools do business next year.

Included in the new laws were changes in the numbers of students assigned to classrooms. The previous law allowed only 20 students to be assigned to each teacher's classroom in kindergarten through fifth grade. Middle school and high school classes were capped at 24. New laws remove those limits. Now the state will provide funding for one classroom teacher per 50 students attending the school. Individual school districts may use localfundingtoprovideadditionalteachersortocomeupwithcreativemeasurestoreduceclasssizes.

"We need to be more responsible with our taxpayers' money and children," said Representative Mike Davis. "We are in an economic recession and just don't have money to throw around."

Some parents disagree, though. "I can't imagine my six-year-old trying to keep up with his reading when the

teacher needs to make sure 40 or more kids are doing what they're supposed to." said Pat Patterson, father of two, "I don't know what these people are thinking."

The new laws go into effect next month.

# Source B:

**"Really?" a letter to the editor by Marcia Thomas, *City News*, March 17, 2012, page 4.**

As a tenth-grade biology teacher for the last 20 years, I thought there was nothing left that could shock me. Boy, was I wrong!

How exactly do these lawmakers, who probably haven't set foot in a public school classroom since they were in school themselves, propose that teachers manage 50 students at a time?

Teachers are asked to do so much right now. We not only need to prepare our students to take end-of-course tests in our subject areas, we also need to get them ready to attend college or go into the workforce. On top of this, we are counselors, and sometimes we are even the ones who feed and clothe them. We do all this because we care about our youth. We think they matter.

At the same time, we can do only so much. If we meet the high standards we set for ourselves under this new legislation, good health will be a thing of the past for us. Not only will we suffer, but the students will suffer as well.

# Instructions:

Write a paragraph on the health benefits of dietary fiber. Synthesize the information in both of these sources (below) in your paragraph. Be sure to paraphrase or quote key information. Use at least one quote in your paragraph, and properly cite both quotes and paraphrases using MLA guidelines. Your response should use transitions to move between ideas, use specific details from the sources, maintain a formal style, and include a concluding statement.

# Source A: "Understanding Your Fiber Needs" from the Fiber Farms Cereal Company's website

Fiber is one of the most important aspects of a healthy diet, yet it is also one of the most ignored. Few people eat enough fiber-rich foods on a daily basis. According to researchers at Fiber Farms' product development, the average adult needs to consume at least 40 grams of fiber each day.

Why? According to these researchers, fiber helps improve digestion, lowers cholesterol, and improves heart

health. Getting that much fiber can be difficult, though. While many natural foods such as green beans, oatmeal, and apples contain fiber, most people would need to eat extremely large amounts of these foods to get the recommended amount of fiber. Who wants to eat 14 apples a day?

Fiber Farms' Fiber Essence offers a healthy, convenient solution. Fiber Essence is engineered to provide forty grams of fiber in just one serving. The easy-to-mix drink powder can be added to water, juice, coffee, or tea. The health benefits of Fiber Essence can be seen immediately. In a study conducted by the Fiber Farms' labs, testsubjectsconsumingoneglassofFiberEssenceeach dayforthreemonthshadlowercholesterolthan

those eating traditional forms of fiber. There's no easier and more beneficial way to stay healthy than Fiber Essence.

# Source B:

**"Fiber and Your Health" from a pamphlet published by the Professional Medical Practitioners of America, page 1**

While many nutrients are necessary to maintain a healthy body, fiber is possibly one of the most important, especially when you are trying to lose weight. The two types of fiber, soluble and insoluble, serve different functions, but both aid in weight loss.

Soluble fiber dissolves in water and helps minimize the amount of cholesterol and sugar your body absorbs from foods. High-carbohydrate foods have more calories, so reducing sugar intake can reduce weight.

Insoluble fiber, as the definition implies, does not dissolve in water. Rather, it is like "filler" in the body. It makes youfeel full more easily. When you eat lots of insoluble fiber, you feel full more quickly and aren't as tempted to overeat.

Fiber provides other health benefits. Because soluble fiber reduces the amount of cholesterol the body takes in, it can minimize the impact this harmful substance has on your heart. Insoluble fiber plays an important role in digestion. It helps increase the size of stools, making elimination easier.

Should you have questions about how to get enough fiber in your diet — or other questions about your particular health and dietary needs — be sure to contact your physician or a certified nutritionist.

# Instructions:

Summarize the passage below **in at least two or three sentences**. **Then evaluate the passage**, focusing on the quality of the details included. Which portions of the passage do not provide enough detail to help the reader understand the topic? Why? After you have evaluated the passage, revise it to improve the quality of its details. In your revision, show which parts of the original paragraph you are using by underlining them. Note: You may need to make up information to add to the paragraph.

# "Consumer Risk: Buddy Blocks"

A new product on the market, Buddy Blocks, poses serious risks to children. The blocks can break easily and hurt children. Some children have even had to be hospitalized. The paint used on the blocks is also unsafe. Ithas caused illness in several young children. There is one age group of children who should especially avoid playing with these blocks. The national consumer product panel is considering removing this toy from the marketbecause of the problems it has caused.