**INFO SHEET #4: CLAIMS OF FACT, POLICY, AND VALUE**

**Competency**

**MELC:** **EN10WC-IIb-13.2** Formulate claims of fact, policy, and value.

**Objectives**

After the end of the lessons, the learners are expected to be able to:

1. To distinguish claims of fact, value and policy from the given example;
2. To formulate claims of fact, value, and policy; and
3. Appreciate the importance of claims of fact, policy, and value in making information presentation more comprehensive and understandable for readers.

**Key Information**

A **claim** is an arguable statement. It is an opinion that a writer asks an audience to accept. It is what the writer tries to prove by providing details, explanations, and other types of evidence.

As a reader and as a writer, it is a must that we know the different types of claims.

**TYPES OF CLAIMS**

1. **Claim of Fact** – asserts that something is true or false, and it can be objectively verified. To support – use factual evidence that is sufficient, reliable, and appropriate. This claim is basically debatable yet verifiable.

Characteristics:

* Objective Nature – claims of facts are based on verifiable evidence and can be objectively proven or disproven.
* Factual Accuracy – these claims deal with statements that are either true/false, and they often involve empirical evidence or data.
* Empirical Verification – they can be tested or verified through observation, measurement, or research.
* No Room for Opinion – unlike claims of value or policy, claims of fact don’t involve subjective opinions or personal preferences.
* Clarity and Specificity – these claims are typically clear and specific, stating a fact or presenting evidence without ambiguity.
* Evidence-Based – support for a claim of fact comes from a reliable and credible source, data, or observations.
* Logical Reasoning – arguments supporting claims of fact often rely on logical reasoning and a rational interpretation of evidence.

Example: “Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius at standard atmospheric pressure.” *(This statement is factual and can be tested and confirmed through scientific experimentation.)*

“The Earth orbits the Sun.” *(It is a claim of fact as it can be objectively verified through scientific evidence and observation.)*

1. **Claim of Value** – presents an assertion as to whether something is good or bad, more or less desirable. This is debatable in nature since people may have different opinions on the given claims or concepts. It also expresses an evaluation of something based on a certain set of criteria. It involves subjective judgment rather than objective verification.

Characteristics:

* Subjectivity – claims of value express subjective judgments or opinions about the worth or desirability of something.
* Personal Perspective – these claims often reflect individual or societal preferences, attitudes, or beliefs.
* Evaluation Criteria – they involve criteria or standards against which the value is assessed, which can vary among different individuals or cultures.
* Debatable Nature – claims of value are inherently debatable, as what one person values may differ from another.
* Emotional Component – values are often tied to emotions, and claims of value can evoke emotional responses.
* Cultural Influence – cultural and societal norms play a significant role in shaping claims of value.

* Comparative Judgment – these claims often involve comparisons between different things based on the evaluator’s criteria.

Example: “Classical music is superior to pop music in terms of artistic sophistication.” *(This statement reflects a subjective opinion about the value of classical music compared to pop music, and opinions on this may vary.)*

“Traditional art is more valuable than modern art.” *(It is a claim of value, expressing a subjective opinion about the worth of different art styles.)*

1. **Claim of Policy** – supports that an action should or should not be done to address a certain case or policy. Policy claims indicates that an action should be carried out either in support or in opposition of a particular argument. It also proposes a specific action or solution to a problem. It suggests what should be done based on the evaluation of a situation.

Characteristics:

* Prescriptive Nature – claims of policy propose a course of action or a specific solution to address a particular issue or problem.
* Call to Action – they advocate for a change in behavior, rules, laws, or practices to achieve a desired outcome.
* Problem-Solution Framework – these claims typically identify a problem and propose a solution or action to mitigate or solve that problem.
* Future Orientation – claims of policy focus on what should be done in the future to bring about a positive change.
* Controversial – policy claims are often debatable, as different stakeholders may have varying opinions on the proposed actions.
* Implementation Considerations – they may address practical aspects of how the proposed policy can be implemented and what impact it may have.
* Relevance to the Issue – the suggested policy is directly related to addressing the identified problem or issue.

Example: “The government should implement stricter regulations on carbon emissions to combat climate change.” *(This statement advocates for a specific policy action to address the problem of climate change.)*

“The government should invest in renewable energy initiatives to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.” *(It is a claim of policy, as it proposes a specific action to address the problem of environmental sustainability.)*

**TYPES OF EVIDENCE**

1. **Statement of Facts (both true and false):**

* **Statement of Facts (True).** These are objective, verifiable statements that can be proven to be true or false. They are based on evidence and can be independently confirmed.

Example:Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.

* **Statement of Facts (False).** These are statements that can be proven to be false based on evidence.

Example: The Sun revolves around the Earth.

1. **Statement of Opinions.** These are expressions of personal beliefs, preferences, or feelings that cannot be objectively verified. Opinions are subjective and vary from person to person.

Example: Chocolate ice cream is the best flavor.

1. **Self – Evidence.** A self – evident statement is one that is immediately and necessarily true without the need for further evidence or explanation. However, what is considered self – evident can vary between individuals and cultures.

Example: “All humans are mortals*.” (This statement is considered self-evident because the truth of it is apparent without requiring further evidence or argument – it is universally accepted that all humans have a finite lifespan.)*

**Suggested Performance Tasks:**

1. **Anecdotal Evidence.** This involves using personal stories or isolated examples to make a point. Anecdotal evidence is not necessarily representative of the broader truth and should be interpreted with caution.

Example: “I know someone who smoked for 90 years and lived to be 100, so smoking must not be that harmful.” *(This anecdote represents a single case and doesn’t account for the broader statistical evidence demonstrating the health risks associated with smoking. Anecdotal evidence is generally considered less reliable than evidence gathered through scientific methods.)*

1. **Argument from Authority.** This is when a claim is considered true because of the authority of the person asserting it. However, an argument from authority is not always valid, as even experts can be wrong. It’s essential to consider the evidence supporting the claim.

Example:

1. **Celebrities endorsing a product:** “Actor X recommends this product, so it must be the best.” *(This assumes expertise in a particular domain based on fame rather than relevant knowledge.)*

2. **Quoting a famous person**: “Einstein believed in X theory, so it must be true*.” (This relies on the authority of Einstein rather than the merit of theory.)*

3. **Citing a doctor’s opinion:** “Dr. Y says this medical treatment is the best, so it must be effective.” *(This assumes the doctor’s authority without considering the broader medical consensus.*)

1. **Empirical Evidence.**  This involves evidence that is based on observation, measurement, or direct experience. Empirical evidence is crucial in supporting factual claims.

Example: “In a controlled experiment, researchers found that a new drug significantly reduced blood pressure in patients compared to a placebo group.” *(The empirical evidence supports the conclusion that the drug is effective in lowering blood pressure.)*

References:

Websites

“Types of Claims”. Retrieved from https://www.studocu.com/ph/document/bohol-island-state-university/education/4as-lesson-plan/39013675

**Claims of Fact**

**Historical Research:**

Task: Research an historical event or fact and present a well – documented argument supporting or refuting a particular claim about it.

**Claims of Value**

**Debate:**

Task: Engage in a debate where you defend or challenge a claim of value. Use evidence and persuasive arguments to support your position.

**Claims of Policy**

**Public Service Announcement:**

Task: Create a public service announcement advocating for a specific policy change. Use persuasive techniques to convey the importance of the proposed policy.

**Suggested Rubrics:**

**Claims of Fact**

Research and Data (25 points) – provides accurate and relevant data to support the claim

Clarity (20 points) – clearly states the factual claim and supports it with evidence

Objectivity (15 points) – demonstrates an objective analysis of the evidence, avoids personal bias or subjective interpretation

Presentation (20 points) – organizes information logically and coherently

Conclusions (20 points) – draws appropriate and reasonable conclusions from the presented evidence

**Claims of Value**

Argumentation (25 points) – articulates a clear and compelling argument about the value of the subject, provides strong supporting evidence

Analysis (20 points) – analyzes the criteria used to evaluate value, demonstrates critical thinking

Persuasiveness (20 points) – effectively uses persuasive techniques to influence the audience, appeals to logic and emotion appropriately

Counterarguments (15 points) – addresses potential counterarguments and effectively refutes or acknowledges them

Presentation (20 points) – organize ideas in a coherent and engaging manner, communicates effectively

**Claims of Policy**

Policy Proposal (25 points) – clearly outlines a specific policy proposal, identifies the problem and explains how the policy addresses it

Rationale (20 points) – provides a compelling rationale for the proposed policy, explains the potential benefits and consequences

Feasibility (20 points) – addresses the feasibility of implementing the proposed policy, considers potential challenges and solutions

Persuasiveness (20 points) – uses persuasive techniques to advocate for the policy

Presentation (15 points) – presents the proposal in a clear, organized, and engaging manner

these are visual displays that have key content

information. These textual aids actually provide learners

with structure for abstract concepts. This kind of textual

aids are usually created and designed for those who have

trouble organizing information and thoughts. These are

meant to help those students to visualize ideas that are

organized.