

WA 3 Exploration and Analysis Response Guide

Your local newspaper asked three citizens selected at random to respond to the following question:

How should we respond to extremist political organizations?

Write a letter to the editor in which you **must**:

- ❖ **Explore** the issue of how to respond to political organizations
- ❖ **Analyze** various points of view on the issue
- ❖ **Identify** your point of view on the question
- ❖ **Support your** point of view by referring to your understanding of social studies

How should we respond to extremist political organizations?	
Citizen 1:	In recent years, many countries have seen first-hand the impact of extremists who are motivated by hatred of other ethnic or religious groups. Extremism, whether or not it is expressed violently must never be tolerated. Extremist beliefs violate a fundamental principle of liberalism – that all citizens are equal. Citizens may have to sacrifice some of their rights to allow the government to have the power it needs to crush extremist groups.
Citizen 2:	Defining who is and who is not an extremist is a tough call. Who would decide? We must tolerate extremist organizations no matter how much we disagree with their ideas. If an extremist organization uses violence then police forces should act and the guilty should be punished. Merely holding beliefs that are different from the rest of society is not a crime; acting on beliefs that harm others is.
Citizen 3:	Extremist organizations must not only be tolerated but they must also have full rights of participation in our society, even if their goals are to destroy liberal democracy. We cannot call ourselves a liberal democracy unless we allow people to hold differing values and express those values no matter what we think of them. If our liberal democracy is not strong enough to survive threats from a few extremists, maybe liberalism is not a worthy democracy to believe in.

WA 3 Interpretation Response Planning Worksheet

Planning

Paragraph 1- Exploring the Issue

1) Based on the sources, identify one or two points on why responding to extremist organizations presents a problem for citizens and their governments. **This will be used in Paragraph 1.**

1)

2)

Paragraph 2- Analyze various points of view

2) For each source identify a point or two that summarizes the citizen's point of view. Think about the following questions for each source. **This will be used in Paragraph 2.**

a) Is the point of view a collectivist point of view focusing on the rights and welfare of the group, an individualist point of view focusing on the rights and welfare of the individual, or a point of view that falls somewhere in between?

b) Does the source's point of view identify a solution to the problem?

Source 1

Source 2

Source 3

Paragraphs 3 and 4: Identify your position (Paragraph 3) and Support your Position (Paragraph 4)

3) Identify your position on the issue and then identify 3 points to support your position. **These will be used in Paragraphs 3 and 4.**

My Position: I strongly believe that... OR It is my position that ...

1)

2)

3)

Paragraph 1- Exploring the Issue

Dear Editor:

Good Topic Sentence:

Responding to extremist organizations is a **problem** for both governments and their citizens.

Better Topic Sentence:

Responding to extremist organizations is a **dilemma** for both governments and their citizens.

1) _____

Sentences 2 and 3: (Suggestion: Describe and explain a **major problem for **governments** that you have identified.)**

2) One of the difficulties that governments must deal with is _____

3) _____

Sentences 3 and 4: (Suggestion: Describe and explain a **major problem for **citizens** that you have identified.)**

4) One of the difficulties that citizens face _____

5) _____

6) **In conclusion,** _____

Paragraph 2- Differing Viewpoints

Sentence 1: Write a sentence that simply points out that citizens have different viewpoints on the issue.

1) _____

Sentences 2 and 3: Describe the viewpoint of citizens represented by Source 1

2) Some citizens believe that _____

3) _____

Sentences 4 – 5:

Describe the viewpoint of citizens represented by Source 2

4) Other citizens believe that _____

5) _____

Sentences 6 and 7:

Describe the viewpoint of citizens represented by Source 3.

6) A third viewpoint is held by citizens who think that _____

7) _____

6) In conclusion, _____

Paragraph 3 Your Position

1) **State your position and nothing else.**

2) **First,**

3) **Second,**

4) **Finally,**

5) **In conclusion, I firmly believe that**

Paragraph 4: Support your position by pointing out the good things that will happen if extremist organizations were dealt with in the ways you have suggested. .

1)

2)

3)

4)

5) **Conclusion** - Summarize your support. You may wish to use two sentences.