Wings or a Tail?

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: Opinion writing tells what **you think** and **why**. Use **OREO**: state your **O**pinion, give **R**easons, add **E**xamples, then say your **O**pinion again.

Opinion words: *I think ... I believe ... In my opinion ... because ... For example ... That is why ...*



1. Fact or opinion?

Strong opinion writing uses facts as evidence. Circle **fact** or **opinion**.

1	Birds use their tails to steer when they fly.	fact	opinion
2	Wings would be the best thing to have.	fact	opinion
3	Some monkeys can hold onto branches with their tails.	fact	opinion
4	A tail would look silly on a person.	fact	opinion
5	Bats are mammals that can fly.	fact	opinion
6	Flying would be more fun than climbing.	fact	opinion

2. Opinion and reason

Circle the best answer.

1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?

(a) Birds have wings.
(b) Monkeys climb trees.
(c) I would rather have wings than a tail.

2. Which is the strongest reason for choosing a tail?

(a) I could hang upside down from the monkey bars and swing.
(b) Tails are long.
(c) A tail is a tail.

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3. Plan with OREO

Prompt: If you could have wings or a tail, which would you choose? Why? Plan your answer.

O – Opinion: what do you think?

R – Reason 1

E – Example for reason 1

R – Reason 2

E – Example for reason 2

O – Opinion again

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4. Write your opinion paragraph

Use your OREO plan.

Prompt: If you could have wings or a tail, which would you choose? Why?

Check: ☐ Clear opinion ☐ Two reasons ☐ An example for each ☐ Linking words ☐ Opinion restated at the end

Answer Key

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1. Fact or opinion?

1	Birds use their tails to steer when they fly.	**fact**	opinion
2	Wings would be the best thing to have.	fact	**opinion**
3	Some monkeys can hold onto branches with their tails.	**fact**	opinion
4	A tail would look silly on a person.	fact	**opinion**
5	Bats are mammals that can fly.	**fact**	opinion
6	Flying would be more fun than climbing.	fact	**opinion**

2. Opinion and reason

1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?

- a. Birds have wings.
- b. Monkeys climb trees.
- c. **I would rather have wings than a tail.**

2. Which is the strongest reason for choosing a tail?

- a. **I could hang upside down from the monkey bars and swing.**
- b. Tails are long.
- c. A tail is a tail.

3. Plan with OREO

Sample notes. Answers will vary.

O – Opinion: what do you think?
I would rather have wings.

R – Reason 1
I could fly anywhere I want.

E – Example for reason 1
I could fly over traffic and get to school in two minutes.

R – Reason 2
I could see amazing views.

E – Example for reason 2
I would glide over the lake and look down at the boats.

O – Opinion again
That is why I would choose wings.

Model Answer

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4. Write your opinion paragraph

A model answer to share with students. Their writing will be different.

I would rather have wings than a tail. First, I could fly anywhere I want. For example, I could zoom over the traffic and get to school in two minutes instead of riding the bus. Another reason is that I could see amazing views. I would glide over the lake near my house and watch the tiny boats below. That is why I would choose wings instead of a tail.