

Make a copy

Read through the following before and after persuasive writing examples and compare the differences. Think about the writing techniques the author has used to improve their writing between texts.

With a buddy, as you read through the texts, use your highlighter tool to highlight the following features of the text (if you can't find evidence of the feature, don't highlight)

Effective Hook	'Show not tell'	Appropriate Vocab	Language Technique i.e. rhetorical qu.	Specific Detail/research	Personal experience or anecdote
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Everybody should learn how to cook

Before:

I think everyone should learn to cook because cooking is fun, learning how to cook makes you a healthier eater and you need to eat three times a day.

Firstly, cooking is fun as shown by popular TV shows like MasterChef and Jamie Oliver. It's great to get into the kitchen and try to copy some of their recipes. You get to cook what sounds good to you too.

Secondly, research shows that kids who learn how to cook are healthier eaters. 'Kid's meals' in restaurants are often deep fried and unhealthy. I would much rather have a healthy, homemade stir fry than oily chicken nuggets any day.

Thirdly, you eat three times a day, I figure that's about 20 times a week or over 1,000 times a year. That's a lot of takeaway, a lot of bad food and a lot of stress if you can't cook.

Finally, cooking is messy which is so much fun. I can chop and squeeze and knead and make as much mess as I like – and if I produce something we can eat for dinner, Mum has to clean up the kitchen.

In conclusion, as I have shown cooking is an essential skill. Learning to cook will also save you money because it is much cheaper than eating out or ordering takeaway all the time. So for that reason everyone should learn to cook.

After:

If you like your vegetables raw and your sausages burnt (or worse, the other way around) then you'd be right at home in our house. Someone should have taught my mother how to cook. You want to stress my Mum out? Ask her what's for dinner. The last time Mum tried to

cook a family meal she burnt the tea towel. My brother and I learnt to cook at a very early age – call it self-defense I guess, but somehow we had to stop us all starving to death.

Cooking is actually fun. Look at all the shows like MasterChef and Jamie Oliver, everyone is watching them. It's great to get into the kitchen and try to copy some of their recipes. You get to cook what sounds good to you too. Best of all, I can chop and squeeze and knead and make as much mess as I like – and if I produce something we can eat for dinner, Mum has to clean up the kitchen.

Research shows that kids who learn how to cook are actually healthier eaters. I mean have you seen what they serve up for 'kid's meals' in restaurants? Chicken nuggets, fish in batter and chips, all deep fried – that's a disaster in the making for your stomach, your health and your weight. I wouldn't deep fry anything at home, just pouring all that oil into a saucepan is enough to make me nervous. No, give me a few veggies chopped up, some sliced lamb, throw it all in, a quick flick around the pan for a couple of minutes and hey everyone 'dinner is served'.

You eat three times a day, I figure that's about 20 times a week or over 1,000 times a year. That's a lot of takeaway, a lot of bad food and a lot of stress if you can't cook. When my Mum left home she was terrified about cooking. Her mother hadn't taught her how and sometimes I swear she only married Dad because he knew his way around the kitchen. At least when my brother and I leave home we'll be able to fend for ourselves. Besides, there is something very satisfying about creating something and serving it up to people – and then lapping up all the compliments.

Cooking is creative, but really it is a simple and essential skill. Even Mum agrees. She's started watching MasterChef too (OK, the junior version, but that's a start). Tonight, she has promised to serve us a seafood stew. 'Do you think it's safe?' I asked my brother. 'I'm not sure,' he muttered. 'But just in case, hide the tea towels.'

Fill in the following table with examples of how the author has improved their writing to make it more engaging for the reader.

Resource: <https://www.sevenstepswriting.com/persuasive/persuasive-writing-samples/>