

Answer Key:
Why it matters if it's a statement, an opinion, or a claim

Statement, opinion, or claim?

1 The average student loses up to 34% of the prior year's learning during the long summer break

2 Schools should have long summer vacations so teachers can spend time at their beach mansions

3 Many students get summer jobs as camp counselors or as CEOs of major pharmaceutical companies

4 Long summer vacations rule because I hate school

1: STATEMENT: It's not debatable—it's either true or false (BTW, it can be verified as true)

2: CLAIM: It is debatable, it needs a reason (which is provided), and it should be supported with evidence & made with sound reasoning (there would be no evidence & it was not made with sound reasoning, but it's still a claim)

3: STATEMENT: It's not debatable—it's either true or false (BTW, it can be debunked as false)

4: OPINION: It's subjective, but it's not debatable because the reason given is a personal preference