Alternate Eligible Content (AEC) Example

Subject: ELA
Grade: 8
AEC Code: E08BC3.1.1a
AEC: Identify an argument or claim that the author makes
Intent Statement: Find an opinion the author is trying to convey

PA Reporting Category: E08.B Informational Text
PA Core Standards (List all that apply):
CC.1.2.8.H Evaluate an author's arguments, reasoning, and specific claims for the soundness of the arguments and the relevance of the evidence.
CC.1.2.8.I Analyze two or more texts that provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.
Assessment Anchor: E08.B-C.3 Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
Descriptor: E08.B-C.3.1 Demonstrate understanding of connections within, between, and/or among informational texts.
Eligible Content: E08.B-C.3.1.1 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

AEC Coded
- KNOW: An argument or claim
- DO: Identify
- CONTEXT: That the author makes

Definition Notes:
Argument: The position or claim the writer establishes. Arguments should be supported with valid evidence, and reasoning may be balanced by the inclusion of counterarguments to illustrate opposing viewpoints.
Claim: The thesis statement or main point that forms the basis for an argument within a text.

Original Text: An excerpt from the text: "Are the Everglades Forever?" Read Works
http://www.readworks.org/passages/are-everglades-forever

Most Complex Level
Content Target: Verbally identify a main point for an argument that the author makes using modified text.
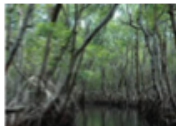
Example Modified text:

Preview and pre-teach vocabulary as necessary. Modify as necessary for your student (e.g., ecosystem, Everglades, wetlands, native, invasive etc.).

The Everglades are wetlands in southern Florida. The Everglades has many animals and plants that are native to this swamp meaning they have always lived or grown in this ecosystem. A healthy ecosystem is a community of living things that depend on each other to survive. However, in the Everglades, there are also some aggressive plants and animals causing problems for the entire ecosystem.

Snakes, such as pythons and anacondas, are a problem. They grow very big. Due to their large size, it's difficult for other animals to kill them and/or eat them. Now there is a lot more snakes in the Everglades. Also, the snakes eat other animals such as opossums, rabbits, bobcats and foxes. Then there is not as much food for other animals like alligators.

There are invasive plants too. Some vine-like plants grow over original trees and plants. These plants are so thick; they can block the flow water and make it hard for animals to get around. These plants and animals hurt the ecosystem in the Everglades.

Question: According to the author, how are snakes a problem in the Everglades? How are invasive plants a problem in the Everglades?
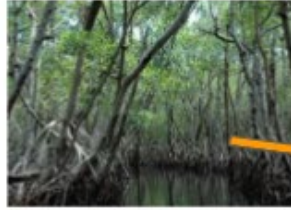
Mid Complexity Level
Content Target: Using modified text with visual support for understanding and providing choices with visual/object support, student will Identify a claim the author makes .

Modified text example: Read the modified text (optional: pair the original text with the modified text). Preview and pre-teach vocabulary as necessary. Provide pic/objects as necessary to support learning and the unique needs of your student. Online sources support this topic and can be used as a supplement (video, pictures, and posters).

There are swamps in Florida.

Swamps are very wet places.

Many animals and plants live together in the swamps.

There is a problem in the swamps.

Big snakes are moving in and living there.

These big snakes eat the animals in the swamp.
Now some animals are gone.
These snakes are bad for the swamp.

Question: What is the problem in the swamp?

Not wet/no water

Snakes are eating too many animals.

Too many bugs

Least Complex Level
Content Target: Identify a picture from the text to show a claim the author makes in a heavily modified text with support for understanding with objects/pictures .

Modified text example: Read the modified text. Preview and teach vocabulary as necessary. Provide pic/objects to support learning and the unique needs of your student. Online sources support this topic and can be used as a supplement (video, pictures, and posters).

Example:

The swamp has a lot of water and plants.

Many animals live there too.

There is a problem in the swamp.

Big bad snakes have moved to the swamp.

The snakes are eating the animals.

Many animals are now dead. .

Question: What animal is eating the other animals in the swamp?