

Name: _____ Period: _____

Day 1 lesson overview: Students will read about a conversation between a family and their school principal regarding the need for earthquake drills at their school site. Students will practice argumentation by articulating whether they agree with the family's or the principal's statements.

The following is a conversation between Principal Hodge and a family who recently moved to the area. The family is in the process of enrolling their children at Lawrence Road Middle School and have a concern about the school's safety drills.

Family

Thank you for meeting with us. We wanted to talk with you about why Lawrence Road doesn't practice earthquake drills. As you know, we recently moved from California and are used to having earthquake drills at the girls' school.

I understand your concern. The reason we don't practice earthquake drills at Lawrence Road is because the chance of having an earthquake on ____ is very small. Instead, we practice safety drills for dangers that are more likely to happen, such as fire drills.

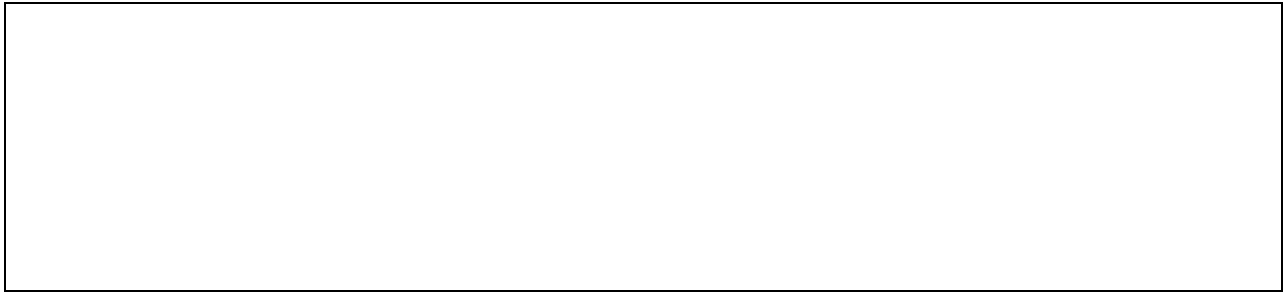
Principal

Family

Oh – we didn't know that earthquakes were not common here on _____. However, we still think the school should have an earthquake drill. In California, earthquakes do not happen all the time, but schools practices these drills to be prepared. How can you be sure that there will never be an earthquake here?

You just read part of the conversation about earthquake drills between the Principal and the family from California. The Principal says that it isn't necessary to practice earthquake drills at the school, while the family thinks the school should practice this type of drill. **Who do you agree with? Give one reason to support your decision.**

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