



English I: Writing: Module 3: Lesson 4: Section 5

Relevant Information and Valid Inferences

Revising References

Instructions: The following paragraph has some irrelevant information and a couple of invalid inferences. Revise the paragraph by rewriting it in the space provided, excluding the irrelevant information and either correcting the inferences so they are valid or rewriting to get rid of inferences that don't work. When you are finished, click the buttons below to look at comments and revisions as well as a possible response.

Good sportsmanship is as important for fans as it is for the players. It is often the fans that turn out to be the worst sports and the least likely to exhibit good sportsmanship. In a soccer game, when an official gives a player a yellow card, it is often the fans in the stadium who boo and yell while the players accept the call as part of the game. If the players who are on the field and actually involved in the action of the game accept the call, then the call must be correct. The fans should watch the game and enjoy it rather than acting like children. Children can start playing soccer at an early age, and usually they like soccer if they aren't forced by adult coaches to get too serious about the game too soon. It is certainly all right for fans to cheer when their team makes a goal and also when the opposing team's goal attempts are blocked. This is not bad sportsmanship. But it would be bad sportsmanship to cheer when an opposing player gets injured or is given a red card. My brother who is a very good player has only gotten one red card in all his years of playing soccer. Fans have got to love the game and that means loving all the parts of the game. People who go to games just to yell at the officials and cheer when the other team gets fouls called on them are people who never played soccer because anyone who has played soccer knows how to be a better sport about such things.

Your revision:

[Click for comments and revisions.](#)

[Click for a possible response.](#)



Good sportsmanship is as important for fans as it is for the players. It is often the fans that turn out to be the worst sports and the least likely to exhibit good sportsmanship. In a soccer game, when an official gives a player a yellow card, it is often the fans in the stadium who boo and yell while the players accept the call as part of the game. **If the players who are on the field and actually involved in the action of the game accept the call, then the call must be correct.** *[Revision Comments: This sentence needs revision. It is not valid to say “the players on the field accept the call” therefore “the call must be correct.” The sentence can be revised to state a probability rather than a certainty.]*

The fans should watch the game and enjoy it rather than acting like children. Children can start playing soccer at an early age, and usually they like soccer if they aren't forced by adult coaches to get too serious about the game too soon. *[Revision Comments: This sentence has to be deleted. It is true that it relates to soccer and that children have just been mentioned, but the paragraph is about fan behavior, not about children being introduced to the game.]*

It is certainly all right for fans to cheer when their team makes a goal and also when the opposing team's goal attempts are blocked. This is not bad sportsmanship. But it would be bad sportsmanship to cheer when an opposing player gets injured or is given a red card. **My brother who is a very good player has only gotten one red card in all his years of playing soccer.** *[Revision Comments: This sentence needs to be deleted. The soccer experiences of the author's brother have nothing to do with the sportsmanship of fans.]*

Fans have got to love the game and that means loving all the parts of the game. **People who go to games just to yell at the officials and cheer when the other team gets fouls called on them are people who never played soccer because anyone who has played soccer knows how to be a better sport about such things.** *[Revision Comments: This sentence needs to be revised. It is not valid to say that “People who go to games just to yell at officials and cheer when the other team's players get fouls called on them” are therefore “people who never played soccer.” The sentence can be saved by removing the inference and just making a statement about how these people who exhibit bad sportsmanship spoil enjoyment of the game for the rest of the spectators.]*



Here is one possible response:

Good sportsmanship is as important for fans as it is for the players. It is often the fans who turn out to be the worst sports and the least likely to exhibit good sportsmanship. In a soccer game, when an official gives a player a yellow card, it is often the fans in the stadium who boo and yell while the players accept the call as part of the game. If the players who are on the field and actually involved in the action of the game accept the call, then probably the call is correct. The fans should watch the game and enjoy it rather than acting like children. It is certainly all right for fans to cheer when their team makes a goal and also when the opposing team's goal attempts are blocked. This is not bad sportsmanship. It would be bad sportsmanship, however, to cheer when an opposing player gets injured or is given a red card. Fans have got to love the game, and that means loving all the parts of the game. People who go to games just to yell at the officials and cheer when the other team gets fouls called on them are not contributing to a good soccer experience.