**MS Sample: Don’t Ban Youth Sports**

**Dear City Council Members:**

**A parent group in our community has made a proposal to ban youth sports due to the negative effectives of competitive sports on athletes. I am not an athlete, but considering that many of my friends are, I disagree with the proposal. I feel as if the child wants to play and deal with the consequences, then he or she shall do so. This decision should not be made by the city council, but by the athletes.**

**Competition isn’t dangerous, it’s the attitude the athletes have toward winning and losing. If we show the better ways of competing, then we wouldn’t have the negative effects on athletes. Winning is not the main priority of competing. Karen Coffin, retired coach and writer, states that competition is about working together with others to accomplish a goal. That means to show sportsmanship and not being ashamed of failure. If we never face failure, then we wouldn’t know how achieving goals feels.**

**Although I’m for sports in our community, there are concerns about competition. A seven-year-old tennis champion, Kyle, said that he felt ashamed when he lost. Competition can have a toll on the athlete when they fail, and that’s what concerns most parents.**

**As a civilian, I understand the reasons to ban sports, but please consider the athletes that work hard enough to get where they are now. Without sports, some athletes wouldn’t have a scholarship to get an education. Please consider my proposal and dismiss yours.**

**Sincerely,**

**ANALYSIS**

**Provides the reason for writing—the issue that is up for debate**

**Identifies his position on issue and the reason he has a stake in it**

**Introduces his angle on the issue (attitude)**

**Cites evidence in support of claim and comments on it**

**Concedes validity of opposition**

**Provides relevant example**

**Fails to provide countering evidence**

**Aligns with audience (civilian)**

**Raises additional reason that sports are useful (undeveloped)**

**Provides clear request for audience’s action**