**EXAMPLE 1**

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| **DEBATABLE CLAIM**  ***School lunch isn’t as healthy as it should be.*** |
| **Counter-Claim**  ***Granted, the school district is doing their best to offer students healthy selections.*** |
| **ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE**  details, brief stories, personal observations |
| Writer’s personal observation/experience - Today I was served chicken nuggets, French fries, chocolate milk, a roll and a few brownish carrots and pieces of celery. |
| Friends’ experience – My friends and I always feel sluggish after lunch. Tanesha said, “I can hardly stay awake in art class after rushing through our 20 minute lunch.” |
| Acquaintance’s story **–** Matt, the boy I sit next to in history class, says he feels sick after eating fried chicken nuggets, which aren’t real chicken but the parts of chicken processed and pressed together. |

**Example 2**

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| **DEBATABLE CLAIM**  ***School lunch isn’t as healthy as it should be.*** |
| **COUNTER CLAIM**  **Granted, one of the main ingredients is usually chicken.** |
| **FACTUAL EVIDENCE**  Facts, data, statistics, research by experts |
| Confirmed facts - Poor diet can lead to energy imbalance and can increase one’s risk for obesity or being overweight. (Center for Disease Control) |
| Data/Statistics – A single serving of chicken nuggets (5 pieces) can contain up to 500 milligrams of sodium, the total amount of salt children should consume daily. (www.webmd.com) |
| Research by experts - A 2008 study by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation found that by the time many healthier commodities [that are processed before being served in school lunch] reach students, “they have about the same nutritional value as junk foods.” (*New York Times*) |

**Challenge Question:** Why is it important to have a mix of both anecdotal and factual evidence in an argument paragraph or essay?