

For use with "Should Congress Have Term Limits?" on p. 22 of the magazine

ANALYZE & EVALUATE CLAIMS

Analyzing Authors' Claims

Read the debate on pages 22-23 about whether there should be term limits for members of the U.S. Congress, then follow the directions below to analyze each author's claims and decide who makes a stronger case.

AUTHOR: Congressman Ron DeSantis
Republican of Florida

AUTHOR: Thomas E. Mann
The Brookings Institution

Author's main claim or argument in the debate:

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REASON 1: Name one reason the author gives for his claim.

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List evidence the author gives to support Reason 1.

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REASON 2: Name another reason the author presents.

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List evidence the author gives to support Reason 2.

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REASON 3: Name a third reason the author presents.

REASON 3: Name a third reason the author presents.

List evidence the author gives to support Reason 3.

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What persuasive devices does the author use?

- Appeals to emotions
- Uses data or scholarly research
- Tells why the other side's argument is weak
- Other: _____

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EVALUATE: Which author do you think makes a more effective case? Do you spot any weaknesses—like a bias or missing information—in either argument? Explain on a separate sheet of paper.

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