

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Analyzing Paragraphs**



## Is Cheerleading a Sport?

(1) In 2010, cheerleading was declared not to be an official sport, to the frustration of colleges that hoped to use cheerleading participation as a way to meet gender-equality requirements in their sports programs. (2) The case was appealed, and the judgment upheld, in 2012. (3) According to the American Medical Association (AMA), though, cheerleading absolutely qualifies as a sport because it is both rigorous and risky, and in 2014 the AMA, which is the largest physician’s association in the U.S., threw its support behind the cheerleading-as-sport movement. (4) But the AMA isn’t motivated by the gender equality in sports issue—they would like to see cheerleading institute more safety measures, and see more training required for cheerleading coaches. (5) Cheerleading is the leading cause of serious injuries in college-age female athletes. (6) As one AMA delegate described the situation, “These girls are flipping 10, 20 feet in the air. We need to stand up for what is right for our patients and demand they get the same protection as their football colleagues.”

**DIRECTIONS:** Analyze the structure of the paragraph by discussing the role of each numbered sentence in developing and refining the paragraph’s key concept.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_