

# Focus Trait: Organization

## Presenting Evidence Clearly

**James Forten**  
Writing: Opinion Writing

**Argument: It took courage for African Americans to fight in the Revolutionary War on the side of the Patriots.**

### Weak Evidence

War is scary.

They could die.

If they were on a ship, it might sink.

### Strong Evidence

If they were captured by the British, they might be sold as slaves in the West Indies.

Also if they were captured by the British, they could be executed for being traitors.

They risked being injured or killed or dying from the diseases that spread through the camps.

**A. Choose a side of the argument below. List three pieces of strong evidence that you can use to support your argument.**

Argument: Biographies of historical figures (should/should not) be included in every reading textbook.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**B. Use your evidence to write a well-organized persuasive paragraph. Pair/Share Work with a partner to brainstorm smooth transitions.**