Identifying a claim within a persuasive text

Directions: Read each passage and then pick the claim the author is making.

Passage #1

People often complain about the amount of trash on our ocean beaches, but I rarely hear anyone offering a solution. Let's face it—most of us are pretty lazy and do not want to have to walk very far to dispose of trash.

Those who run our state parks and recreation areas should recognize that. Installing more trash cans along our public beaches is the way to keep trash from being dumped on the sand. The last time I went to a beach, I only saw one garbage can, and it was way up by the parking lot! Trash cans should be spaced frequently along the beach.

I know some will say that trash cans will spoil the natural beauty of the beach. However, this could easily be solved. The trash cans could be in small wooden "huts" that blend with the beach and woods. If there were places to easily dump trash, then people would lack excuses to not use them.

☐ 1. The beach is a beautiful place to go.

☐ 2. People litter too much.

☐ 3. There are not enough trash cans on the beaches.

Passage #2

(1) Are you tired of trying to lug your books to school on your bike? Messenger bags and backpacks were not well-designed for bicycle travel, making it difficult to carry your books.

(2) For example, messenger bags that sling across your shoulder and sit against your bike are always sliding off. Backpacks are better, but they are built to distribute the weight evenly when you walk. When bicycling, your body is in a whole different position. These backpacks can cause strain to the back.

(3) The new Bicycle Book Bag completely solves these problems with a smart design. This backpack will hold all your books and let you carry them comfortably while you ride.

(4) The comfort comes from the special straps that fasten across your chest and across your waist. This makes sure that weight is evenly carried across your whole back. Best of all, the bag and its contents are firmly held in place and will not slide around.

(5) Just in time for school, the Bicycle Book Bag is available at an outdoor store near you.

☐ 1. Students shouldn't have to carry books to school.

☐ 2. The new Bicycle Book Bag is designed to make it more comfortable to carry your books while riding your bike.

☐ 3. Riding your bike to school is good exercise.

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