

ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING

CONLEY – WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL – 10TH LIT AND COMP – 2017-2018



WHAT IS ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING?

- The argumentative essay is a genre of writing that requires the student to investigate a topic; collect, generate, and evaluate evidence; and establish a position on the topic in a concise manner.

WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING?

- Argumentative essays consist of:
 - A hook
 - A claim
 - Evidence
 - Counterclaims
 - Conclusion

PARTS OF AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

INTRODUCTION

- INCLUDES THE HOOK
- INTRODUCES THE ISSUE AND PROVIDES BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- SUMMARIZES WHAT YOU WILL BE DISCUSSING IN YOUR ESSAY

HOOK

- AN OPENING IN AN ARGUMENT OR PIECE OF WRITING THAT GRABS THE READER'S ATTENTION

PARTS OF AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

CLAIM

- A POSITION TAKEN ON AN ARGUABLE VIEWPOINT
- CLAIMS MUST BE DEBATABLE (YOU CAN ARGUE AGAINST IT)
- CLAIMS MUST BE NARROW (NOT TOO BIG TO DEAL WITH)

EVIDENCE

- CITING (QUOTING OR PARAPHRASING) SPECIFIC POINTS FROM MULTIPLE TEXT SOURCES THAT HELP PROVE YOUR CLAIM
- NOT JUST OPINIONS BUT INFORMATION FROM RELIABLE SOURCES LIKE EXPERT OPINIONS, FACTS OR STATISTICS, AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

PARTS OF AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

COUNTERCLAIM

- AN OPPOSING VIEWPOINT
 - WHAT ARGUMENTS COULD A REASONABLE PERSON MAKE AGAINST YOUR CLAIM?
 - WHAT IS THEIR EVIDENCE?
 - HOW CAN YOU ARGUE AGAINST IT?

CONCLUSION

- SUMMARIZE THE MAIN POINTS OF YOUR CLAIM AND REINFORCE YOUR ARGUMENT

EXEMPLARY ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING:

- Skillfully presents a claim and provides background and a clear explanation of the issue.
- Answer the following questions on the back of your checklist:
 - What is the issue in your paper? (ex. Censorship, women's rights, etc.)
 - What is your claim? (ex. Censorship is bad because..._

EXEMPLARY ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING:

- Synthesizes evidence from a variety of sources that strongly support the claim
- Answer the following questions on the back of your checklist:
 - What sources have you used to support your claim? (Ex: Persepolis, Claude McKay's poem, Malala's speech, etc.)

EXEMPLARY ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING:

- Summarizes and refutes counterclaims with relevant reasoning and clear evidence
- Answer the following questions on the back of your checklist:
 - What is the counterclaim to your claim? (Ex. Some people like censorship because it protects minors from explicit material, etc.)
 - Have you discussed this counterclaim in your paper?
 - How did you refute (prove wrong) this counterclaim?

EXEMPLARY ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING:

- Concludes by clearly summarizing the main points and reinforcing the claim.
- Answer the following questions on the back of your checklist:
 - Have you written a conclusion yet?
 - Does it include a summary of your evidence and main points?

PURDUE OWL SAYS:

- **A clear, concise, and defined thesis statement that occurs in the first paragraph of the essay.**
- **You must have clear and logical transitions between the introduction, body, and conclusion.**



PURDUE OWL SAYS:

- **Body paragraphs must include evidential support.**
- **A conclusion that does not simply restate the thesis, but readdresses it in light of the evidence provided.**

