

Argumentative Essay

The function of an argumentative essay is to show that your assertion (opinion, theory, hypothesis) about some phenomenon or phenomena is correct or more truthful than others'.

Argumentative Essay

Argumentative writing is the act of forming reasons, making inductions, drawing conclusions, and applying them to the case in discussion; the operation of inferring propositions, not known or admitted as true, from facts or principles known, admitted, or proved to be true.

Argumentative Essay

It clearly explains the process of your reasoning from the known or assumed to the unknown. Without doing this you do not have an argument, you have only an assertion, an essay that is just your unsupported opinion.

Argumentative essay Format

Any argumentative essay needs to be written according to the following form:

1.It must begin with a clear statement and reveal the significance of the presented opinion in terms of the analyzed phenomenon.

2.In order to make the argumentative essay professional a wide range of information concerning the phenomenon should be reviewed.

3.As the reader is to “agree” with the data listed in the essay, it must be as reliable as possible.

Hook

Start your introduction with a sentence that gets the reader interested in the topic. To grab the reader's interest, you can begin with a quote, a personal story, a surprising statistic or an interesting question. For example, if you are arguing that smoking should be banned from all public places, you can start your introduction by referencing a statistic from a verified source: "Tobacco use kills more than five million people every year"

Background

Providing readers with background on the topic allows them to better understand the issue being presented. This information provides context and history that can be crucial to explaining and arguing your point. For example, if you are arguing on wearing uniform in universities, you should provide the circumstances that led to it.

Thesis

The thesis is the essence of an argumentative essay. In a single, clear sentence, it sums up what point you are trying to make. The thesis statement should assert a position on a particular issue -- one that a reader can potentially argue against. Therefore, the thesis cannot be a fact.

Thesis

For example, if a professor assigns the general topic of war, you can formulate the following thesis statement: "The United Nations must be redesigned because it is currently incapable of preventing wars." The rest of your essay serves to explain and provide evidence in support of your thesis statement.

Body Paragraphs

No matter how many body paragraphs you include, they should all follow a similar format. That is, you should always remember to:

1. Point
2. Evidence
3. Explanation

Use this formula for every point you make. You can and should include more than one point per paragraph.

Body Paragraphs

1. Point: a reason or claim that proves your thesis or argument
2. Evidence: A direct quote or paraphrase taken directly from your article or source. You **MUST** introduce direct quotes in your own words. Example: Some experts believe that, “Getting a college degree no longer guarantees upward mobility” (Kotkin line 35).
3. Explanation: An explanation of how your example proves your point in your own words

The Counterclaim

In a persuasive argument, you should devote a paragraph to acknowledging a counter or opposing claim. This is where you acknowledge and respond to the position of someone who would disagree with you. Doing this makes your argument stronger because you can provide evidence to prove your opponent wrong.

The Counterclaim

You should set up this paragraph in a similar manner as your other body paragraphs—make a counterclaim and then back it up with evidence. However, you should **ALSO INCLUDE** a negate for each of the opposition's claims. “ (Point, Evidence, Explanation, Negate). End your paragraph by directly stating why your claim stronger than the counterclaim.

Conclusion

1. Completely rephrase your thesis.
2. “Zoom out” and connect your thesis to a “larger idea,” theme, lesson, etc. Summarize why the ideas and/or information in this piece are important?
3. The BIG finish,. Why should the ideas in this piece matter to your reader?