

Name: _____

Date: _____

Argument Writing: Parts of an Argument

When you write an **argument**, you are trying to convince your reader that your opinion is correct. A strong argument has five key parts.

Claim	A statement of opinion. This is the topic of your argument.
Evidence	Proof or facts that support your claim.
Counter-Argument	An argument that your reader would make if they disagreed with your claim.
Rebuttal	Your response to the counter-argument.
Conclusion	A strong restatement of the original claim.

Underline each part of the following argument using the colors listed above.

Dear Mom,

I think we should get a pet dog. Dogs make great pets because they are loyal. They help deter criminals, like thieves. They also help boost people's moods because they are friendly and playful. Doctors have even found that owning a dog can improve a person's health. They reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease and they help prevent allergies, asthma, and eczema in children! You might think that I am not responsible enough to have a pet dog. But, I have demonstrated responsibility by making my bed every morning and doing my homework every afternoon. I know that I would be responsible for walking our pet dog and cleaning up after it. Getting a pet dog would be good for our whole family!

Love, Natalie