

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Argument Writing: Persuasive Letters

When you write an **argument**, you are trying to persuade your reader that your opinion is correct. A strong argument has five key parts: a claim, evidence, a counter-argument, a rebuttal, and a conclusion.

Many arguments are written in letter form. A letter allows you to address your audience and write directly to them. Remember, a letter should include the date, greeting, and closing.

**Here's an example.** Underline the claim in this persuasive letter.

March 12, 2017

Dear Dad,

I think we should go to Disneyland. It is known as the happiest place on Earth, so I know we would have a good time. Also, we can get a discount on tickets if we go before I turn 12. You might think that Disneyland is too far away. But, I think the plane ride would be part of the fun! If we go, it would be the experience of a lifetime for our whole family.

Sincerely,  
Yesenia

**Choose one of the topics below.**

- Write a letter to your principal convincing him or her that you should have a longer recess.
- Write a letter to your school librarian to persuade him or her to buy your favorite book series for the library.
- Write a letter to your teacher to convince him or her that you should not be assigned homework this week.
- Write a letter to a family member to argue that you should be allowed to have a special item or privilege.

**Write your claim for the topic you chose.**

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**Now, write a persuasive letter on a separate sheet of paper.**