

# Argument Writing Template



A well-written argument essay usually follows a certain formula, or structure. Once you have chosen your topic, you can use this template to help you think about each part of the structure as you write it. Use the information in the left column to guide you through each step of the writing. When you are done, you will be able to “sew” these pieces together with transition words to construct your first draft.

**TOPIC:** \_\_\_\_\_

Part of the Essay	Your Writing
<b>Hook</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An unusual detail</li><li>• A strong statement</li><li>• A quotation</li><li>• An anecdote</li><li>• A question</li></ul>	
<b>Introduce the Issue</b> - Explain it in a way that gets the reader to care.	
<b>Thesis or Focus Statement</b> - State your position in one sentence.	

<b>Body Paragraph #1</b>	
<b>Elaborate on the reason, providing at least two supports. These could be:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Facts</li><li>• Statistics</li><li>• Quotes (an expert on the topic)</li><li>• Examples</li></ul>	<b>Topic Sentence Reason #1</b>
<b>Concluding Sentence</b>	



<b>Body Paragraph # 2</b>	
<p><b>Elaborate on the reason, providing at least two supports. These could be:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facts</li> <li>• Statistics</li> <li>• Quotes (an expert on the topic)</li> <li>• Examples</li> </ul>	<b>Topic Sentence Reason # 2</b>
<b>Concluding Sentence</b>	

<b>Body Paragraph #3 CONCESSION</b> - Consider swapping the order and putting this before Paragraph 1. Choosing the order makes the argument more powerful.	
<p><b>Concession Statement -</b> State a reason that opposes your view.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p><b>SENTENCE STARTERS:</b> Some people might think... It has been argued... Some may say... While it's true that....</p> </div>	
<b>Elaborate on why the reason is invalid or not strong enough to support the opposing view.</b>	
<b>Concluding Sentence</b>	



## CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH

**Restate your thesis or focus statement.**

**Sentence starters:**

In summary,  
In brief,  
To conclude,

**Paraphrase your main arguments**

**Call to action** - Urge the reader to take an specific action or recommend a remedy that reflects your stance.

**Examples:**

- Uniform Policy: Talk to the principal and urge them to allow students to choose their own clothing.
- Recycling: Set up a compost and recycling station in your classroom.

**Final Tip:** Use transitions between sentences to serve as cues for the reader (first, second, then, however, consequently, therefore, thus, still, nevertheless, notwithstanding, furthermore, in fact, in contrast, similarly, instead).

