

Essay # 3: Argumentative Essay

DUE DATE: Wednesday, April 9

Each of us faces arguments and/or situations where we need to make a decision on a regular basis: Should I have coffee or tea? Should I buy an iPhone or Android? Mac or PC? Should I vacation at the beach or lake?

Whether you are aware of it or not, you make decisions based on "reasoned arguments" daily: Should I continue to search for a parking spot and be late to class or give up and skip class? Should I go hang out with friends or stay home and write my English 101 essay?

For this essay, you will choose a **localized** topic—one that pertains to you personally—and use reasoned arguments ("giving reasons rather than raising voices," A/C 161) to support your argument. Not only will you need to present convincing reasons to support your position, but you will need to consider the "other" side of your argument (**counterargument**) by discussing and refuting the opposing side of your position.

Since you must write on a topic that relates to your life (an issue you have been faced with: To attend a Cal State or UC, to buy a parking pass at CSUF or not, to read the conservative *O.C. Register* or the liberal *LA* and *NY Times*, etc.), you may **NOT** write on large controversial issues such as: abortion, gun control, animal rights, capital punishment, gay marriage, medical marijuana or anything else that is happening globally or nationally. Keep this essay *localized*. Also, since we will be using a Facebook example in class, you may not use it as your topic.

**Requirements:**

- 4-6 pages (a minimum of 4 FULL pages) *one line min on 5th page*
- A minimum of three sources: one personal and two secondary (books, credible websites, articles, etc.) *we can use I*
- A Works Cited page
- Maintain an academic tone (no contractions, no "you," no slang, and minimal grammar mistakes such as fragments and run-ons)
- At least **one counterargument**



- citing a book: Need the author's last name & page #.  
- Smith ~~said~~ asserts, "I love English" (4).

OR one source states, "I love English" (Smith 4)

- OR owl Purdue MLA

- works cited page needs to be in alphabetical order (ABC)

- If no author, then put the article title or website —  
alphabetize by that.

- If info goes on to the second or more line, indent (tab)



- ⊗ use ellipses (...) to omit words or sentences in your source
- ⊗ use brackets for verb changes or adding words for clarity (489 - or Q.R.)

### - Integrating Quotes: (490):

⊗ Do not drop a quote in — you need your words before or after the quote.

Wrong: "I love English" Right: According to John Smith, "I love English"

- ⊗ One to two sentences of analysis after every quote or, same way, or paraphrase.

⊗ Do not end a paragraph with a quote.

### ⊗ In text citations:

- If you have an author's name, put their last name in parentheses at the end of the sentence if it's the 2nd or more reference.
- No author? Then italicize the name of the website & put in your sentence or in parentheses at the end.
- Do not write: www.apple.com
- Instead use Apple



## Working with sources - chapter 17 (A/C 486-):

- You must cite sources in your essay ~~And~~ AND on your works cited page - otherwise, it is plagiarism!
- Follow MLA ~~5th~~ Style for in-text citations and on your works cited.
- "Your readers [should] be able to tell where words or ideas that are not your own begin and end" (A/C 486)

\* Signal phrases (487) - let the reader know when you're about to quote / summarize / ~~para~~ paraphrase someone else.

### ★ Direct quote

- According to John Smith, "-----"
- John Smith claims, "-----"
- As John Smith asserts, "-----"  
source
- use the author's full name on first reference in your essay - after that, just use their last name.  
i.e. First Ref: According to John St Smith, "I love English!"  
2<sup>nd</sup> → and on: According to Smith, "I love English!" (Smith)

According to one source, "I love English" (Smith)

Wrong  
Double  
citing.



### Essay # 3 Notes.

3/24/2014

#### Aristotle's 3 Appeals: Ethos, Logos, Pathos

- Argumentation: Proving your point (~~cannot~~ <sup>can't</sup> call) - using clear logic & solid evidence (sources) to express your stipend.
- Persuasion: While trying to prove your point, you use confined language to appeal to reader's prevalences.
  - Persuasion is used to motivate a person to adopt an opinion & take action or to see good point of view.
- Since people usually respond both rationality & emotionally to situations, argumentation & persuasion are often combined.



Counterarguing A/C 4/12-15

- A/C 4/13: "Counterarguing - anticipating and responding to reader's objections."

- 3 ways to counterargue:

• Acknowledge reader's objections to questions.

• Accept reader's concerns that you feel are legitimate (correct).

• Flat at argue that reader's objections are invalid or irrelevant (refute).

Signaling counterarguments (A/C 107-98):

- Opponents believe \_\_\_\_\_; claim that \_\_\_\_\_; however, that \_\_\_\_\_
- Those who oppose \_\_\_\_\_ is not so due to (your argument & evidence)
- On the other hand \_\_\_\_\_; however, \_\_\_\_\_
- One common complaint (or argument) is \_\_\_\_\_ that is not the case (your argument & evidence here)



Pro/con freewrite:

19 March 2019

- 1) Pro/Con list of your topic

Pro	Con
quick food	Snack is quicker
cheap	If compared with food cooked in at home the food at home will win the comparison.
<del>don't know</del> don't know how to cook	<del>Health</del> Fast food is unhealthy
	Animal abuse

- 2) Create two thesis statements for your topic using different wording.

- 1) Teenagers should stop consuming the unhealthy Fast food because of the harm it causes on the long term.
- 2) Parents should continue



### Essay #3 Notes

Thesis statement tips for argumentative essays.

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Ⓚ Pose your topic as a question in your head. Then the answer is your thesis statement.

i.e. should general education requirements be mandatory in universities?

Answer Thesis: Universities should continue to require all students to take two years of general education classes because of both the short and long-term benefits.



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your topic for this essay has to be localized

\* 1 paragraph Personal example.

Concise list of Key Features of an argument essay:

- ☐ clear and arguable position (Thesis statement)
- Optional ☐ necessary background information (sources/examples/definition)
- ☐ convincing support for each reason/point you ~~will~~ be arguing for in your essay.
- ☐ appeal to reader's values (Ethos, Pathos, Logos)
- ☒ Trust worthy tone (Facts / knowing what you are talking about. Take a clear stance. - Do not be wishy-washy)
- ☐ careful consideration of other positions (counterargument).



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