

## ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

Argumentative essay is defined as a genre of writing that requires the student to investigate the given topic, collect information, generate and evaluate evidence, in a bid to establish a position on the subject in a concise fashion.

It's the type of work where you have to develop an argument based on evidence and elaborate the **stand you take**.

### Main Types of Arguments and How to Use Them

**Classical.** Present the main argument, state your opinion, and do your best to convince the reader why your stance is the right one. Also called Aristotelian, this is the most popular strategy for making an argument because it's the most simple line of thinking to follow. It's effective when your audience doesn't have a lot of information or a strong opinion about your topic, as it outlines the facts clearly and concisely.

**Outline I** - standard format for an argumentative essay

*Introduction/Thesis-Claim*

*Body Paragraph 1:* Present your 1st point and supporting evidence.

*Body Paragraph 2:* Present your 2nd point and its supporting evidence.

*Body Paragraph 3:* ...

...

...

*Conclusion*

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**2. Rogerian.** Present the problem, acknowledge the opposing side of the argument, state your point of view, and explain why yours is the most beneficial to the reader. This type of argument is effective for polarizing topics, as it acknowledges both sides and presents the middle ground.

**Outline II** - format that presents the opposition first as a means to demonstrate the significance of your solution (debate)

*Introduction/Thesis-Claim*

*Body Paragraph 1:* Opposition's first point.

*Body Paragraph 2:* Opposition's second point...

*Body Paragraph 3:* Present your first point and supporting evidence.

*Body Paragraph 4:* Present your second point and supporting evidence...

*Conclusion/Restate Thesis*

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3. **Toulmin.** Present your claim, present grounds to back up that claim, and then justify that the grounds are linked to the claim. This type of argument is also effective for polarizing topics, but rather than present both sides, it presents one, hinging particularly on facts presented in a way that makes the claim difficult to argue with.

**Outline III** -

*Introduction/Thesis-Claim*

*Body Paragraph 1:* Present your 1st point and supporting evidence.

*Body Paragraph 2:* Present your 2nd point and its supporting evidence.

...

*Body Paragraph :* Refute your opposition's first point.

*Body Paragraph :* Refute your opposition's second point.

...

...

*Conclusion/ Synthesis*

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