

HOW TO WRITE AN ARGUMENT

An argument is a discussion of a topic that is open to question. To persuade a reader to agree with the position taken by the author of the essay, it must take into account the reader's likely response. A well-written argument considers prospective audiences and is respectful and reasonable. It is not written in the first or second person (I or you). It is written in the third person to focus on the ideas being presented. Your argument essay should be 250 words, four paragraphs. Please follow the steps below:

Introduction

1. State the topic
2. Provide some background information.
3. Indicate clearly the position (thesis) of the author.

Body Paragraphs

1. Provide reasons to support the position (thesis) in the first body paragraph.
2. Present evidence to back them up.
3. Describe an opposing position in the second body paragraph.
4. Counter it with evidence supported by direct knowledge, or examples in the reading the argument is responding to, or:
 - Point to some common areas of agreement that are reconciled to the position (thesis) expressed by the author.

Conclusion

1. Reiterate the position (thesis) of the author.
2. Conclude gracefully the main reasons supporting the author's position on the topic.

Please write the argument essay in your own words.