



How to Write an Argument



Collect evidence that allows you to think through various sides of an argument.

on one hand... on the other hand...

Reread sources with a critical eye, looking for connections and contradictions.

Crystallize a claim with reasons, making sure your reasons are based on evidence.

one reason is... Another reason is...

Rehearse by explaining your position, your claim, and listing your reasons point by point.

Plan your claim and reasons into boxes-and-bullets structure.

Choose compelling evidence and make it work for you.

BAM! BAM!

Draw on sources through paraphrasing or quoting. Show the relationship between the source and your argument and give credit.

In the article... (So and so) claims...

Balance evidence with analysis so readers can follow your line of thinking.

Include a strong introduction and conclusion.

Anticipate critic's counterarguments, acknowledge these in your writing, then rebut them.

Know when and how to maintain a formal tone.

Analyze the logic of your argument in order to strengthen your argument.