

Argumentative Writing Reference Sheet



Focusing

- Read the prompt.
- Think about what the prompt is asking you to do.
- Read the provided text.
- Think about key issues in the text that will help you fulfill the purpose of writing your argument.

Pre-writing

- Based on evidence from the text, think of your claim(s) and supporting reasoning and evidence. You may also use related personal knowledge/experiences/examples to support your argument and the evidence you extracted from the text.
- Think of how you will counter/refute opposing claim(s).
- Use a pre-writing technique (brainstorming, webbing, drawing, outlining) to organize your ideas for the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion of your essay.

Drafting

- Type your essay in the text box provided.
- Be sure to maintain a formal writing style and tone.

Reviewing

- Reread your essay to correct any errors that interfere with your ability to communicate your argument.

When writing my argument, did I...

- ☐ introduce claim(s)?
- ☐ acknowledge and distinguish claim(s) from counterclaims (alternate or opposing claims)?
- ☐ refute/counter opposing claim(s)?
- ☐ anticipate the audience's knowledge and concerns?
- ☐ provide relevant background information from the text provided?
- ☐ maintain a clear focus on the claim(s)?
- ☐ logically organize claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence?
- ☐ support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence (facts, details, direct/indirect quotes, and examples) using the provided text?
- ☐ use transitional words and phrases to create cohesion and clarify the relationship among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence?
- ☐ provide a conclusion that supports the argument presented?