

Argument Writing Cheat Sheet

ARGUMENT WRITING CHEAT SHEET

PURPOS

To inform an audience that your viewpoint deserves consideration

STRATEGY

To present information on both sides of an issue by favoring one side and casting reasonable doubt about the

PHRASES

While it is true that... Opponents will claim... In spite of the fact...

STYLE

Logical Professional Detached

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Resources including claims and counterclaims are the keys to validating your position.

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PERSUASIVE WRITING CHEAT SHEET

DI IDDOS

To move an audience to action or to convince an audience to adopt your viewpoint

STRATEGY

To present information and opinions on one side of an issue by developing a strong connection with a target audience

PHRASES

You can help... Do you want... We deserve better...

STYL

Passionate Personal Emotional

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Your feelings about the issue along with a call to action are the keys to achieving your goal.

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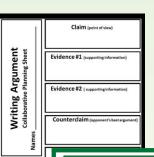
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& Paired Activity Cards





Social Media Addiction

Getting Started

Definition or Description
What I Think Supporters Say
What I Think Opponents Say
Your Current Position
___ Support ___ Oppose

Research Planning Guide

Best Evidence for Your Claim 2nd Best Evidence for Your Claim Counterclaim/Rebuttal Expose Opponent's Best Argument and Weaken It

Pick one: ly opponents will likely claim... While it is true that...

Close

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What's the Difference?

Argument Writing vs.

Persuasive Writing Cheat Sheet



Add cheat sheets to notebooks for easy reference!



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Argument Topic Cards and Planning Tools for Student Pairs





Product Components

#1: Persuasive Writing and Argument Writing Cheat Sheets

Purpose: To help students understand the fundamentals of the two genres

Categories on the Cheat Sheets include: 1) Purpose, 2)Strategy, 3)Phrases, 4) Style and Essential Elements.

#2: 24 Paired Activity Planning Cards

Purpose: To give step by step support to student pairs as they

plan an argument piece

Each card includes: 1) a Topic/Issue, 2) Getting Started

Information, and 3) a Research Planning Guide.

#3: A Paired Activity Discussion Card

Purpose: To help students internalize the components of The Toulmin Model for Argument



Additional Materials:

Collaborative Argument Planning Sheet

Full-size versions of the Paired Activity Planning Cards

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Mini Collaboration Guides for Student Pairs

Directions:

- 1) Assign a topic or allow student pairs to select an issue which has supporters and opponents.
- 2) Have students discuss the "Getting Started" subtopics and agree on a position.
- 3) Ask students to research their selected topic/issue using the "Research Planning Guide."
- 4) Distribute the "Collaborative Planning Sheet."



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Collaborative Planning Sheet

Directions:

- 1) Student pairs will complete one "Collaborative Planning Sheet" per topic.
- 2) Abbreviated source information must be included (e.g. *The World Around Us:* Chapter 2; *New York Times:* 2014 online article).



Writing Argument Collaborative Planning Sheet

Names

Claim (point of view)

Evidence #1 (supporting information)

Evidence #2 (supporting information)

Counterclaim (opponent's best argument)

Rebuttal (weakness in opponent's argument)

Sources:

Conclusion (satisfying review)



Activity Topic and Planning Cards

Directions:

- 1) Cut out activity cards and distribute to the class.
- 2) Instruct students to find the partner who is in possession of the same topic/issue.
- 3) Follow the step by step directions on page #4.



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Blank Topic Cards



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Argument Topic Cards: Full Page Display Version





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Toulmin's Model for Argument Paired Activity Discussion Card





The Toulmin Model for Argument

The Toulmin Model for Argument is named after Stephen Toulmin, a 21st century philosopher, author and educator, who (in *The Uses of Argument*) proposed that every practical argument has six parts. The *first 3 parts* are necessary for all arguments; the *last 3 parts* add credibility to the first 3.

The components of this model include:

CLAIM + DATA + WARRANT + BACKING + REBUTTAL + QUALIFICATION

Formal Toulmin Model for Argument

- 1. *Claim:* State your position or claim being argued.
- 2. **Data:** Give one reason that will strengthen the claim.
- 3. *Warrant:* Answer the question: "So what?" or "Why should people support your side of the issue?"
- 4. **Backing:** Offer a second reason or add support to your data.
- 5. *Rebuttal:* State what someone who would disagree with your position might say. Then...
- 6. *Qualification:* ...explain why someone who might disagree with you would be wrong.

Classroom Adaptation of the Toulmin Model for Argument

Student #1: Make a statement (*Your claim*)

Student #2: "What makes you believe that?"

Student #1: Answer the question (e.g. "If..."). (Data)

Student #2: "Why does that matter?"

Student #1: Answer the question (*Warrant***) AND complete the following stems:**

"Some may argue that..." (Rebuttal)

"However...because..." (Qualification)

*Switch roles, arguing the opposing viewpoint OR another topic.



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