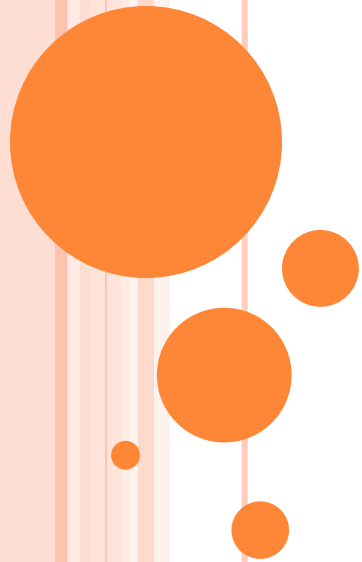


ARGUMENT ESSAY WRITING

5 PARAGRAPH ESSAY



5 PARAGRAPHS INCLUDE:

- Introduction (1)
- Body (3)
- Conclusion (1)



INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH INCLUDES:

- LEAD/ATTENTION GRABBER
- SET UP FOR THE THESIS
 - Bridge and background/general information
- THESIS




THESIS STATEMENTS

A thesis statement manages to encapsulate an essay's main argument in a succinct, one-sentence comment.

Beginning writers often times find it useful to create a “*road map thesis*”, where the thesis briefly lists the areas that will be discussed in the essay. This is called a pronged thesis.

A THESIS STATEMENT:

- Has a clearly stated opinion or position, but does not bluntly announce the opinion (NO USING- “In this essay I will...”)
 - Is clearly stated in specific terms
 - Is easily recognized as the main idea
 - Is forceful and direct
 - Is not softened with token phrases (“in my opinion” or “I think”)
 - Can list all the main points (REASONS) that will be turned into body paragraphs.
- 



KEEP
CALM
AND
WRITE YOUR
THESIS

CONSTRUCTING A STRONG THESIS

- How do you write a good thesis statement?
- Topic + belief/claim(using an active verb) + prongs / main points = Strong thesis

_____ + _____ + _____ = Strong Thesis

Teens should not be able to purchase violent video games because they are not mature enough to handle the content, it can increase aggressive behavior later in life, and violent video games desensitize players to real-life violence.



LET'S WRITE A THESIS!

Topic: Should teens be able to buy violent video games?

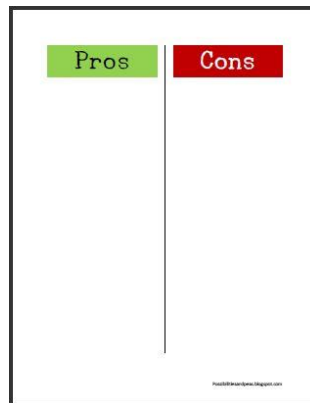
Step One: Make a pro and cons chart.

Step Two: Use the chart to decide which position you will take.

Step Three: Star or circle the reasons you will use. Must be a minimum of 2.

Step Four: Write your thesis statement.

Pros	Cons

A blank pro and cons chart with two columns labeled 'Pros' and 'Cons'. The 'Pros' column has a green header and the 'Cons' column has a red header. The chart is empty, ready for notes.

BODY PARAGRAPHS

Each body paragraph will have basic structure.

BODY PARAGRAPHS TYPICALLY HAVE:

- Topic sentence starting with transition/ transitional phrase introducing first reason
- ICE
 - Point to Introduce Evidence
 - Cite Evidence/Data (with an in-text citation)
 - Explanation/Warrant
- Acknowledge Counterclaim and Refute/Rebut
- Conclusion sentence beginning with transition or transitional phrase summarizing info in paragraph as well as transitioning to next body paragraph



BODY PARAGRAPHS CONTINUED:

Acknowledge the Counterclaim and Refute/Rebut:

Somewhere within your body paragraph you must acknowledge the other side and then refute or rebut the information to strengthen your argument.

- You, as the writer, will have to determine where this should be placed in your body paragraph based on the evidence you are presenting.

Don't forget to refute/rebut the information prior to concluding the paragraph.

You don't want their side to win the argument!



CONCLUSION PARAGRAPHS

THE CONCLUSION PARAGRAPHS TYPICALLY:

- Restate the thesis (in a new, fresh manner)
- Review the main points (without making a list)
- Leave the reader thinking
 - Writers should remind the reader of the magnitude and timeliness of the issue.




CONCLUSION PARAGRAPHS:

3. LEAVE THE READER THINKING!

Now is **not the time to introduce new key arguments**; the argument should have properly been addressed in the body paragraphs. Instead, writer might want to extend the reader's understanding on the argument showing new aspects of the "big picture."

Writers can do this by discussing what the future would look like if the situation remains the same. Referring back to an anecdote or an attention-getter that was used in the introduction paragraph adds a nice stylistic ending.

STRATEGIES TO WRAP UP THE CONCLUSION:

- **Clincher:** a final sentence that leaves the reader with an intriguing thought, question, or quotation
 - **Full Circle Ending:** Connect your final thoughts with the grabber in the beginning of your intro paragraph
 - **Call to Action:** Ask the reader to do something or get involved by doing something
- 

CONCLUSION PARAGRAPHS: IN THE CONCLUSION PARAGRAPH NEVER EVER EVER...

- Use clichés
- Apologize for the material you are writing
- Blatantly refer to the actual essay (“this essay shows you...”)
- Introduce new arguments, evidence, or details you might have forgotten
- Soften your argument by being wishy/washy
- Identical repetition of words in the thesis

