

ARGUMENTATION SHEET

NAME:

DATE:

TOPIC:

Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Argue (give reasons & evidence) in support of your position. Then, anticipate the opposition's arguments. Lastly, put it all together in a comment.

| Statement | My Stance |
|-----------|---|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes/for/agree <input type="checkbox"/> No/against/disagree |

PART I: WRITE DOWN YOUR ARGUMENTS

| Your Arguments | Counter-arguments |
|---|---|
| Take a stance for/against the statement. Support your reasons with evidence, facts, and relevant examples. | Anticipate how someone who disagrees might respond: interpret your evidence differently, point to drawbacks or false assumptions. |
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PART II: ANTICIPATE THE OTHER SIDE'S ARGUMENTS

| Opposing Arguments | Rebuttals |
|---|---|
| Look at it from the other side's perspective and anticipate what arguments the opposition will make. | Defend your position. Refute the opposing argument by showing how/why it is invalid, illogical, or irrelevant. |
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PART III: LEAVE A COMMENT

Imagine reading the statement in a newspaper article, and then deciding to express your point of view in the comment section of the newspaper's website. Use connectors to combine your arguments, and to connect them with those of the opposition's arguments.

Connectors

Adversarial connectives

Use these to signal that two statements contradict each other.

Alternatively
Although
However
In contrast
In spite of the fact that
On the other hand

Example: Although Mars is similar to the Earth in many ways, its surface is hostile to humans.

Additive connectives

Use these to signal that the two statements are similar.

Again
Also
Further
Furthermore
In addition
Moreover

Example: Going to Mars would be dangerous. Also, it would be expensive.

Causal connectives

Use these to signal that one thing leads to another (cause-effect).

Because
Consequently
Hence
Since
Therefore
Thus

Example: The air on Mars contains mostly carbon dioxide. Therefore, humans would not be able to breathe there.

Comment