

Structure

Follow these steps when organizing the essay:

- Establish that a problem exists by defining and/or describing the problem in sufficient detail so that a reasonable reader will recognize the problem is in fact a problem, an issue that is arguable.
- The second step is to inform the reader of solutions to the problem by beginning with a solution or solutions which the writer will ultimately prove to be in some way inadequate.
- The third step is to demonstrate the lack of suitability of this/these solutions.
- The fourth step is to deliver the best solution to the problem.
- The fifth and final step is to conclude the essay.

Diction and Tone

- The argumentative paper is a formal, academic paper. As a result the tone should be elevated, not sounding casual or off-hand or conversational. Contractions or speech simulation should not appear in the paper unless you are quoting someone else.
- You should state whatever it is you have to say with conviction and never leave any doubt in the reader's mind that you believe fully in the conclusion that you have drawn.
- Phrasing such as "I believe" or "I think" signify that you lack conviction and should be avoided. Illogical shifting of point of view or the use of the colloquial "you" (second person) should also be strictly avoided.
- Once again, this assignment requires the writer to produce a **formal paper**. Tone and diction should always reflect this. You must use sophisticated vocabulary to help establish your credibility.

COMMONLY USED TRANSITIONS

Cause and Effect

Accordingly
As a result
Consequently
Hence
It follows, then
Since
So
Then
Therefore
Thus

Conclusion

As a result
Consequently
Hence
In conclusion, then
In short
In sum, then
It follows, then
So
The upshot of all this is that
Therefore
Thus
To sum up
To summarize

Comparison

Along the same lines
In the same way
Likewise
Similarly

Contrast

Although
But
By contrast
Conversely
Despite the fact that
Even though
However
In contrast
Nevertheless
Nonetheless
On the contrary
On the other hand
Regardless
Whereas
While
Yet

Addition

Also
And
Besides
Furthermore
In addition
In fact
Indeed
Moreover
So too

Concession

Admittedly
Although it is true that
Granted
I concede that
Of course
Naturally
To be sure

Example

After all
As an illustration
Consider
For example
For instance
Specifically
To take a case in point

Elaboration

Actually
By extension
In short
That is
In other words
To put it in another way
To put it bluntly
To put it succinctly
Ultimately

Argumentative Writing Language Terms

Language you should use to identify individuals on different sides of an issue:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Supporters	Opponents
Proponents	Opponents
Those in favor of	Those opposed to
Defenders of	Critics of
Advocates of	Objectors of

Language you should use when presenting the opposing arguments:

argue	believe
assert	allege
contend	insist
maintain	suggest
claim	point out
state	

Examples: Those opposed to abortion argue that ...
Defenders of the death penalty contend that ...

When you shift from the opposing arguments to supporting arguments:

however
on the contrary
on the other hand
in contrast
although
in truth
in reality
yet the fact of the matter is