



ARGUMENT! ARGUMENT!

READING AND WRITING AN ARGUMENT



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*Arguments are
everywhere!*



What is an argument?

- Expressing a point of view on a subject and supporting it with evidence

Pencil and Paper out!

- Should children be rewarded just for participating?
- Is honesty always the best policy?



Write for 5 minutes. Don't stop!



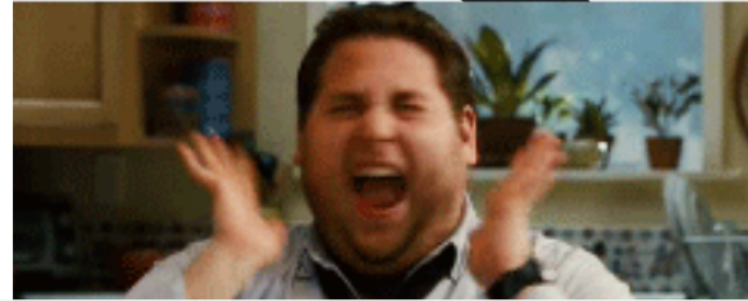
gone are the happy days of being given a “topic” about which you can write anything. It is time to stake out a position and prove why it is a good position for a person to hold.



Claim!

What is a Claim?

- main idea
- thesis statement
- support with evidence



gone are the happy days of being given a “topic” about which you can write anything. It is time to stake out a position and prove why it is a good position for a person to hold.



What is your Claim?

Two minutes

- Look at what you have written and decide what position you are taking on the topic.
- Highlight any evidence you can use to back up your position.
- Write a specific Claim about the topic.

What is your Claim?

Two minutes

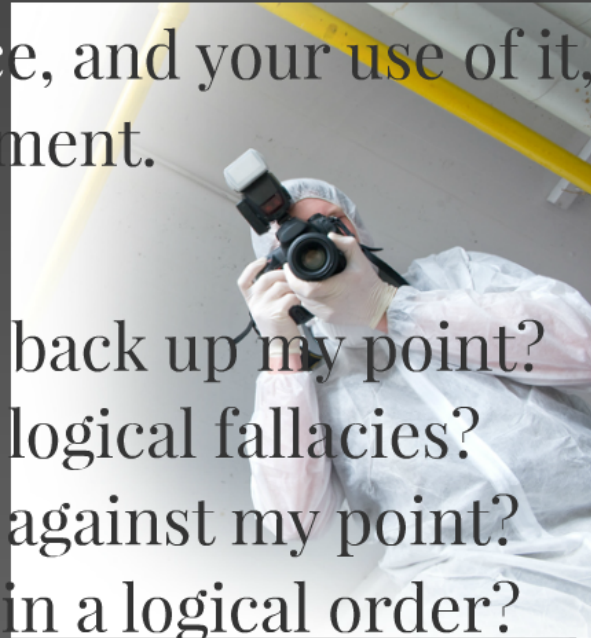
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- Highlight any evidence you can use to back up your position.
- Write a specific Claim about the topic.

Evidence

You have to back up your point with evidence. The strength of your evidence, and your use of it, can make or break your argument.

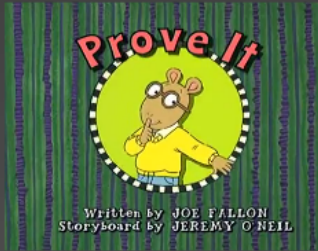
Ask yourself:

- Is my evidence sufficient to back up my point?
- Does my evidence have any logical fallacies?
- How would someone argue against my point?
- How can I put my evidence in a logical order?



Warrant

So What?



KEEP
CALM
AND
Prove It

How does your evidence prove your point?

What do the reader and the writer agree on?

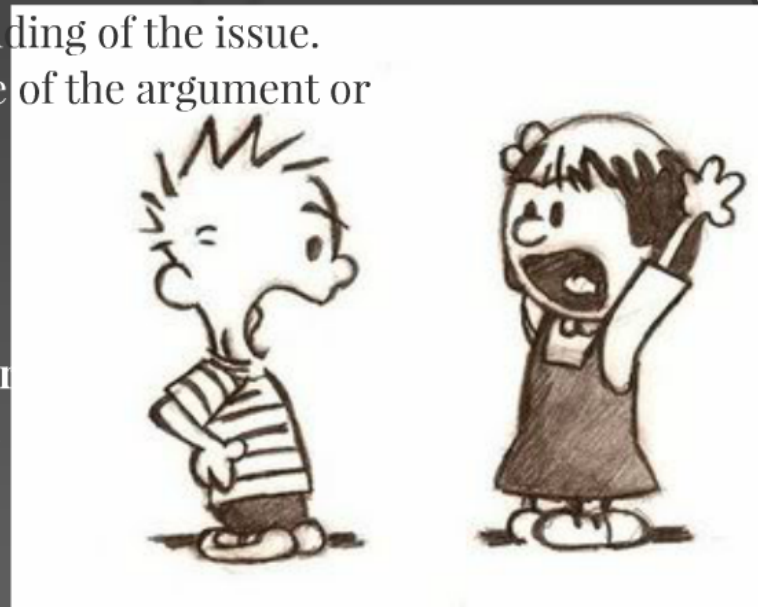


Counterargument

- Show that you have a deep understanding of the issue.
- Anticipate and address the other side of the argument or objections that may come up

If you can't immediately imagine another position, here are some strategies to try:

1. Do some research.
2. Talk with a friend or with your teacher.
3. Consider your conclusion or claim and the premises of your argument and imagine someone who denies each of them.



What is my point

Continually ask yourself what your point is and make sure it is pointing back to your claim. (thesis)





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