

The Art of the Argument

Argumentative writing is organized with a **CLAIM STATEMENT** that includes 3 claim reasons.

****Counterclaim reasons are NOT in the claim statement****

INTRODUCTION W/CLAIM STATEMENT

CLAIM REASON #1 + EVIDENCE

COUNTERCLAIM #1 EVIDENCE W/REBUTTAL

CLAIM REASON #2 + EVIDENCE

COUNTERCLAIM #2 EVIDENCE W/REBUTTAL

CLAIM REASON #3 + EVIDENCE

COUNTERCLAIM #3 EVIDENCE W/REBUTTAL

CONCLUSION W/RESTATED CLAIM

Claim Reasons:

1. Start with the overall claim reason – clear, simple terms
2. Include at least 2 pieces of evidence to support the claim reason
3. Explain & connect the evidence back to the overall claim reason

Counterclaim Reasons:

1. Introduce the opposing argument with a counterclaim starter sentence**
2. Acknowledge its validity with evidence
3. Counter the argument with new or restated evidence