

Original Student Writing: Argument Essay

Brainstorming will help you get started with your argumentative essay. In this section, you will choose a topic for your essay, write your thesis statement, think about several supporting ideas for your opinion, and think about the counterargument.

ACTIVITY

Planning your Essay

Follow the steps below to develop ideas for an argument essay.

1. First, choose any other topic and thesis statement that you want to write about. Remember that the topic must have more than one point of view to qualify as an argument.

Essay topic: _____

Thesis statement: _____

2. Now brainstorm ideas about your topic. Fill out the Pro & Con T-Chart with as many ideas as you can.

PRO	CON
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

3. Look at your Pro & Con T-chart again. Choose three reasons from your PRO list that support your thesis most effectively and **circle** them. You now know what your major supporting information will be.
4. Now give attention to opposing points of view. In the box below, choose two counterarguments from your CON list and write a refutation for each.

Counterargument (from CON list)	Refutation (ATTACK - Why is it wrong?)
1.	
2.	