

Persuasive Writing Essay

The Assignment

For this assignment you will be asked to write a five-paragraph persuasive essay. Without using personal declarations (“In my opinion,” “I think,” “I believe,” “It seems to me,” etc.), you should explain to your audience why your stance on the issue is the most logical, and why your audience should agree with you on the issue.

The Criteria:

Your essay should include the following:

- contain a thesis statement that **clearly** explains the stance you are taking on the issue (it should be the last sentence of your introduction)
- contain three body paragraphs with transitions
- have a concluding paragraph with a restatement of the thesis

The Format:

Your essay should

- be typed—because this is a short paper, you could do this on your iPad in Google Docs
- be double spaced
- include a title and your name on the first page

Essay Topics:

Your persuasive essay will focus on a specific issue. You may choose from the list of topics below or request teacher approval for another topic.

Chose from one of the following options:

Assisted Suicide/Euthanasia
Stem Cell Research
Genetic Research or Testing
Cybercrime and Piracy
Standardized Testing
Ethics and Sports
Homelessness
Public Healthcare
Hate Crimes

Affirmative Action
Separation of Church and State
Child Abuse Prevention
Overpopulation
Creationism
Censorship
Animal Testing/Cruelty
A Specific Environmental Issues
Public Figures and Privacy Rights

You need three specific arguments to clearly support your position. Your body paragraphs must include information that will convince the reader that this cause is worthwhile and truly needs to be examined.

Organize your paper as follows:

Introduction: After your attention getter, provide useful background information about your topic. Perhaps include a story of a real person, or a scenario that better explains your issue. Narrow your focus and include your thesis statement as your last sentence.

Body Paragraph 1: Covers information for first argument

Body Paragraph 2: Covers information for second argument

Body Paragraph 3: Covers information for third argument

Conclusion: Your first sentence should restate the thesis. Review important information (recap your three arguments), but do not introduce new information in your conclusion. Leave your reader with a thought or message as a “clincher” to finish your essay.