

Writing: The Argumentative Essay - SP English

In an argumentative essay you will present an argument for or against something. For example: 'Why women are better drivers than men'.

Argumentative essays are usually subjective, which means you will argue from your own point of view:

- Your stance on the topic must be consistent and as well argued as possible: if you are arguing for (defending) the topic, acknowledge the points against it.
- Your conclusion must state unequivocally where you (as the writer) stand and why.

In your argumentative essay, you should:

- State a specific opinion or point of view and argue to motivate your position.
- Sustain your view throughout the essay
- Begin with your own point of view of the topic in an original way
- Provide a number of points to support your argument
- Focus on points for and against a statement, but make your particular stance clear
- Express strong opinions
- Use a variety of rhetorical devices and persuasive techniques
- Use emotive language: this can be achieved by using strong verbs and emotive language.
- Conclude your essay with a strong, convincing statement that reflects your opinion.