

# Argumentative Writing



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State the position.

Provide background information.

Acknowledge an alternative viewpoint.

Transition to the body.

Reiterate the position.

Review the counterclaim.

Offer added incentive.

Challenge the reader.

Finish with a clincher statement.

# Argumentative Writing

## GRADE 6

### Babysitting

Babysitting is a way to make extra money if you don't want to work at a fast food restaurant. However it can be a real pain—literally. Kids can kick and bite. Babies make big messes, and older kids can throw a fit. For many reasons babysitting can be a hard way to make a few bucks.

...

All things considered, babysitting can be a nightmare. You better really want to make some extra money to choose it as your part-time job.

Acknowledge an alternative viewpoint.

Provide background information.

Transition to the body.

State the position.

Reiterate the position.

Offer added incentive.

# Argumentative Writing

## GRADE 8

### Shut Down Your Screen

Dear Teachers,

I believe that we should participate in shut down your screen week. I think that everyone in the school should not use any electronics for one week.

Since the invention of the computer, cellphone and other electronics, people have been using them more and more and more. These electronics have big upsides, you're never alone if you have cell service and Facebook allows people to talk to multiple friends at once when they're not in the same room, town, state, or country. But they also have their downsides. What makes us truly great is our ability to think deeply and focus, but when we use electronics or the internet we aren't doing either of these things. In fact, using these things makes us think more shallow and focus less. I think that we should participate in shut down your screen week.

...

Technology is a new thing, and it has many advantages and conveniences. But for many it becomes more than a convenience, it becomes an obsession. For this reason I believe that we should participate in shut down your screen week, to give people a chance to make new habits and make technology a convenience again, not a necessity.

State the position.

Provide background information.

Acknowledge an alternative viewpoint.

Provide background information.

State the position.

Review the counterclaim.

Finish with a clincher statement.

Reiterate the position.

# Argumentative Writing

GRADE 10

## Smoking Ban

In the perfect situation, smoking policy would be set by bar or restaurant owners, and customers would patronize the establishments with the policy they prefer. Customers would decide—without the government’s help—if they want to avoid smoke-filled rooms or enter them. They might even choose to sit in an area sectioned off for smokers or non-smokers, but the ultimate issue is choice (Ruwart 1). When the government starts telling restaurant owners what their customers can and cannot do, the government is overstepping its boundaries.

Provide background information.

State the position.

...

Personal choice is a simple principle that is highly valued in American society. Banning smoking in all public restaurants violates this principle and jeopardizes our freedom. Smoking should not be banned in all restaurants. A ban on smoking imposes unnecessary governmental interference in private business, affects business owners negatively, and discriminates against smokers. Like the black Southerner turned away because of racial segregation, the smoker is unfairly treated.

Sadly, just when our government claims to be whisking away the clouds of smoke, it is legislating a cloud of discrimination.

Offer added incentive.

Reiterate the position.

Challenge the reader.

Finish with a clincher statement.