

Sample Argumentative Essay: Summary

Writing tip	Example provided in sample essay
<p>Open your essay with a “hook” to attract readers’ attention at the start of your paper.</p> <p>Conclude your introductory paragraph with your thesis statement—the message that will frame the rest of your essay. The thesis statement clearly describes what you want the reader to do or believe.</p>	<p>First sentence: “Last month, my father was rushed to the hospital with a heart attack at 9 am.”</p> <p>The remainder of the introductory paragraph continues to tell the story about his mother’s inability to contact him while he was in school, then concludes with the thesis statement: “Schools should rethink the ban on cell phones since this is the major way that parents communicate with their children.”</p>
<p>Organize the body of the essay around points that support the thesis, along with evidence to support those points.</p> <p>In the sample paragraph, the first statement is the supporting point. The supporting point is followed by evidence. The final sentence connects the supporting point to the thesis in an attempt to convince the reader to believe your thesis.</p>	<p>“Safety is the major concern of parents who want their children to be able to contact them quickly and easily should they find themselves in a perilous situation. As Julian Sanchez points out in his article Safety is a Major Concern, ‘At other times, parents need to contact children because of a change of plans. This happens particularly in families where both parents work, or where the parents have separated.’ This shows how sometimes parents need to get in touch with children to let them know that they have to go somewhere else after school.”</p>
<p>Include counterarguments to show that you understand why someone might have a different point of view.</p>	<p>“I know that there are good reasons for the cell phone ban, such as students using them to cheat on tests. Another reason is that they can be used to organize illegal activities such as fights, or truancy.”</p>
<p>Offer a rebuttal to the counterarguments. Your response to counterarguments should strengthen your thesis.</p>	<p>“But, cheating, fighting and truancy have been going on for much longer than students have had cell phones. Kids will always find a way to communicate about these things.”</p>
<p>In the conclusion of your essay, state your thesis again, summarize your supporting points, and offer a clear statement about why the reader should care about your argument.</p>	<p>“My father is back at home now but he won’t be back at work for several more months. Since parents are so concerned about our safety, California is an active earthquake state, and almost everyone has a cell phone these days, I can’t imagine how I would feel if he had died and I wasn’t at the hospital with my family. Having a cell phone means that I can be contacted in an emergency such as this. I understand, as do my friends, that this is a privilege that can be taken away and we won’t abuse it. But the school system must trust us—otherwise how can we keep ourselves safe?”</p>

Source: “Sample Argumentative Essay.” *Mrvattahamber*. mrvattahamber.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/sample-argumentative-essay.pdf. Accessed 30 Aug. 2018.