

Argument Outline & Speech Assignment

PURPOSE/GOALS: to highlight your ability:

- ✓ to build an argument: whether to make others believe that yours is the only valid perspective, to educate, or to create a community in which others question their knowledge of the topic
 - ✓ to create an introduction to draw the audience in to the topic
 - ✓ to acknowledge and detail multiple perspectives on the issue/topic
 - ✓ to use research strategies and credible sources
 - ✓ to involve the audience and technology in your presentation
 - ✓ to utilize visuals to illustrate your ideas and deepen the knowledge of your audience.
 - ✓ to create a memorable conclusion
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LENGTH: 5-10 minutes

POINTS: 100-speech; 100 points-outline-final draft of outline (including significant revisions); _____ points -for outline draft; 25 points-proposal; 50 points-annotated bibliography

VISUAL AIDS: at least one. Must use technology: power point, prezi; May also use posters to illustrate. Illustrations must be legible (readable) for audience members a minimum of 10 feet away. Illustrations need to improve or broaden audience understanding of your topic and your argument

PRESENTATION: may use notes, outline, or memorization. Points taken off for reading speech word for word.

TOPIC: an issue (problem) that is currently in the news that may inspire controversy; has multiple perspectives

REQUIREMENTS:

This is a research-based speech.

- You must use at least five (5) credible resources. Scientific studies, interviews with credible sources, print resources that are credible (national newspapers like *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *LA Times*; magazines like *The New Yorker*, *The Economist*, *Harpers*, *Scientific American*, *Time*, *Smithsonian*, *Christian Science Monitor*; NO Blogs (unless OK'd by instructor); NO online encyclopedias, although you CAN use the resources the high school pays to access: 2facts.com, AKA "Issues and Controversies", EBSCO: search.epnet.com, ask librarian or instructor for the passwords you can use to access even OFF CAMPUS).
- Include an MLA (Modern Language Association) formatted annotated bibliography (summary: 2-3 sentences).
- Credit sources IN your outline and your speech using correct MLA format (parenthetical citations)

A proposal – due Monday (11/2):

- Use headings for each section—*see example on the next page*:
 - state your issue
 - state what your perspective or goal is
 - state what 2 OR 3 other perspectives exist
- ☑ Turn in via googledoc so that I can email comments

An outline— due Thursday (11/5):

- detailing the flow of your argument from introduction to conclusion, taking time to illustrate your research/current events, other perspectives, the perspective that you believe in (the way that you format and argue will depend on your audience's knowledge and even on their opinion about the topic you're discussing.)
- include a working bibliography/works cited with the resources that you've used to learn more about all sides of your topic
- ☑ turn in via googledoc so that I can email comments

.....Requirements Continued on next Page.....

Visual aids—due with speech presentation:

to be used during your speech. These might include:

- REQUIRED:
 - a power point with very few words and lots of pictures/graphs/etc.
 - a prezi with very few words and lots of pictures or graphs
- NOT REQUIRED:
 - posters
 - short film sections (10-20 seconds)

On Time – you must give your speech on the date it is due, or contact me ahead of time and make other arrangements. Late speeches will receive -10% per each day they are late, after 5 days you lose the opportunity to present.

During your speech- you may use your outline, note cards, or a written speech as a guide. Don't read from a written script because unless you memorize, it is difficult to make eye contact with the audience.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS & FORMAT:

model below

REQUIREMENTS:

1. use headings for each section⇒⇒⇒
2. write in complete sentences
3. cover the following (each should have its own heading and explanation)
 - a. states your issue
 - b. state what your perspective or goal is
 - c. state what other perspectives exist
4. Hand it in electronically to googledocs

Your name
Date
Period
Argument Speech Proposal
<p>Issue: <i>Your writing goes here – explain the issue</i></p>
<p>Your goal: <i>What do you want your audience to understand or learn, what do you want them to believe?</i></p>
<p>Other perspectives: <i>What are 2 OR 3 perspectives, evidence or opinions that might affect your argument?</i></p>

OUTLINE/ARGUMENT REQUIREMENTS

Outline will be graded according to these qualities:

- Thesis evident –what claim are you trying to make (and prove)?
- Introduction with “hook”
- Background information (if necessary)
- Argument
- Refutation: identifying counterargument(s) and refuting it/them
- Concession: (up to you and topic) also identifies counterargument(s)
- Organized sequence of ideas
- Headings and subheadings for topics and evidence. Roman numerals or letters indicating the organization.
- Evidence with sources cited (written in outline specifically, so I can understand the direction of the argument)
- Conclusion which reminds audience of your claim and main points, and leaves audience thinking

Questions to ask yourself when developing your introduction:

1. What elements of background or context need to be presented for this audience? Is this new information or am I just reminding them of matters they already have some familiarity with?
2. Where do I stand on this issue?
3. What is the best way to capture and focus the audience's attention?
4. What tone should I establish?
5. What image of myself should I project?

Some Questions to Ask as You Develop Your Argument's body and response to the counterargument(s)

1. What are the arguments that support my thesis that my audience is most likely to respond to?
How can I demonstrate that these are valid arguments?
2. Where can I find the facts and testimony that will support my arguments?
3. What types of visuals will help my audience to understand?
4. How can I refute opposing arguments or minimize their significance?
5. What are the possible objections to my own position?
6. What are the most important opposing arguments? What concessions can I make and still support my thesis adequately?
7. How can I best deal with these objections and misunderstandings?

Some Questions to Ask as You Develop Your Conclusion

1. How can I best leave a strong impression of the rightness and importance of my view?
2. How can I best summarize or exemplify the most important elements of my argument?
3. What is the larger significance of the argument? What long-range implications will have the most resonance with my readers?
4. How can I bring the argument "full circle" and leave my readers satisfied with the ending of my argument?

<http://www.austincc.edu/buck/eng/1301/pubtexts/Argument.htm> 21 January 2012