

**Definitions**

**Claim:** a statement that you are trying to prove is true.

**Evidence/Data:** proof (anecdotal or factual) from a credible source

**Commentary/Warrant:** Explains what the evidence proves, why your evidence is important, and the relationship between the evidence and the claim

**Counter-Claim:** a statement that opposed your claim; the other side's claim

**Rebuttal:** a reason why they counter-claim is not as strong as the claim

**Concluding Sentence:** restates the claim

Your paragraph *should* include the following format:

1. **Claim/Position** (see **box#1** below)
2. **Evidence/Data** (use sentence frames in **box #2** below)
3. **Commentary/Warrant/Explanation** (use sentence frames in **box #2** below)
4. **Evidence/Data** (use sentence frames in **box #2** below)
5. **Commentary/Warrant/Explanation** (use sentence frames in **box #2** below)
6. **Counterclaims: Opposition position** (use sentence frames in **box #3** below)
7. **Concluding sentence** (see **box #4**)

**Box #1: Claim (modify them as necessary)**

**Sentence frames: (Use only one)**

1. It is the writer's opinion that ...
2. The writer believes that.....
3. It seems obvious to the writer that....
4. Although most would disagree, the writer's position is .....
5. .... should/ should not.....
6. In the writer's view, .... is wrong/right.

**Box #2: Evidence/explanation (modify them as necessary)**

**Sentence frames: (Use only two)**

1. To begin, information provided by the (SOURCE/AUTHOR), declares that “(PARAPHRASE OR QUOTE EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM)” (AUTHOR LAST NAME & PAGE #). This shows that (EXPLAIN HOW EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM).
2. (TRANSITION WORD), According to (SOURCE/AUTHOR), “(PARAPHRASE OR QUOTE EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM)” (AUTHOR LAST NAME & PAGE #). This clearly demonstrates that (EXPLAIN HOW EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM).
3. In fact (SOURCE/AUTHOR) articulates, “(PARAPHRASE OR QUOTE EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM)” (AUTHOR LAST NAME & PAGE #). This proves that (EXPLAIN HOW EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM).
4. (TRANSITION WORD), evidence from the (SOURCE/AUTHOR) asserts that “(PARAPHRASE OR QUOTE EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM)” (AUTHOR LAST NAME & PAGE #). This confirms that ... because (EXPLAIN HOW EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM).
5. (TRANSITION WORD), research shows from (SOURCE/AUTHOR), declares that “(PARAPHRASE OR QUOTE EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM)” (AUTHOR LAST NAME & PAGE #). This shows that (EXPLAIN HOW EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM).

**6. (SOURCE/AUTHOR) found that “(PARAPHRASE OR QUOTE EVIDENCE THAT SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM)” (AUTHOR LAST NAME & PAGE #). This shows that (EXPLAIN HOW EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR CLAIM. THIS IS COMMENTARY).**

**Transition words:** Furthermore, Additionally, Moreover, Likewise, Equally, Similarly

**Box #3: Addressing counterclaim**

**Sentence frames: (Use only one)**

1. Some people who disagree with the claim may suggest that **(SUMMARIZE THE COUNTERCLAIM YOU WANT TO ADDRESS USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE WHERE NECESSARY)**. However, they fail to see **(EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE WRONG USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE TO DO SO)**.
2. There are those who believe **(SUMMARIZE THE COUNTERCLAIM YOU WANT TO ADDRESS USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE WHERE NECESSARY)**. What they have not considered is **(EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE WRONG USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE TO DO SO)**.
3. Many people believe **(SUMMARIZE THE COUNTERCLAIM YOU WANT TO ADDRESS USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE WHERE NECESSARY)**. While that might seem true, the evidence proves **(EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE WRONG USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE TO DO SO)**.
4. One may argue **(SUMMARIZE THE COUNTERCLAIM YOU WANT TO ADDRESS USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE WHERE NECESSARY)**. However, he/she fails to see **(EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE WRONG USING ANECDOTAL OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE TO DO SO)**.

**Other ways to consider the counter argument:**

Some may argue that....

Opponents maintain that...

On the other hand, there are many who disagree with the idea that...

They also argue that...

A further point antagonists make is...

While opponents argue vehemently that...

**Other ways to defend your claim and provide commentary:**

However, when looking at the data, it proves.....

However, there are several reason to oppose this point of view. To begin,.....

After looking closely at both sides of the issue and the evidence, I believe it is best to... because...

Despite the fact that.... it is also vital to consider..... because....

Well, that is only partly the case. The other side that wasn't considered is .... ,which shows....

Even though the issue has two sides, I think that I have proven that.....

If we look closely at ...., we will see that it is better to..... because.....

**BOX #4: CLOSING SENTENCE:**

1. Restates the claim, uses key words from topic sentence

**Transitions words (use only ONE):** all in all, consequently, ultimately, to sum up, overall, obviously, altogether, clearly, accordingly, Therefore, thus, to conclude, the logical conclusion is, in short, in closing