

# Persuasive Essay

What to write about in a persuasive essay?

The goal of a **persuasive essay** is to convince readers. When **writing** the **essay**, you'll first need to state your own opinion then develop evidence to support that opinion. These reasons and examples (evidence) should convince readers to believe your argument

# Persuasive Essay

## Topics (to give you some insight)

- Should students be allowed to have phones in elementary and high schools?
- Should students have to wear uniforms?
- Should the driving age be raised to twenty-one?
- Should students be paid for having good grades?
- Should girls be allowed to play on boys sports teams?
- Should teens be able to buy violent video games?
- Should boys and girls be in separate classes?
- Should public schools begin the day with a silent prayer time?
- Should schools offer fast food options like McDonald's or Taco Bell?
- Should the government place a tax on junk food and fatty snacks?
- Should children have to use booster seats in cars?
- Should people have to get a license to become parents?

# Persuasive

- ⇒ uses personal thoughts, feelings, and opinions to get point across
- ⇒ can use *emotions* to get point across
- ⇒ attempts to persuade the reader to change his/her mind or view and agree with the author
- ⇒ does not present opposing view

# Argumentative

- ⇒ presents one side of an issue to the reader using *facts, data, and research*
- ⇒ must analyze informational text to generate a *thesis statement*
- ⇒ must analyze informational text to address the *counterclaim*

**Just the Facts, Please!**



# Persuasive Essay – Contents

There are many parts to a Persuasive Essay that need to be included:

- Topic Sentence/ Reason (hook - at the beginning of each body paragraph)
- Evidence (2 pieces)
- Call to Action (in the conclusion)

# Persuasive Essay – Topic Sentence / Reason (Hook)

- Each of the 3 body paragraphs have to hook the reader into convincing them that you know what you are talking about.
- Your Hook is the 3 reasons why you should follow along with the writer; or how they are going to convince you to believe them.
- *For example, Wayne Gretzky is the best hockey player of all time.* You need to provide a hook to convince the reader. I could say that is because he has the most points of any player ever
- Your hook is the topic of the paragraph. You are only allowed to talk about this one topic in each paragraph

# Persuasive Essay – Evidence

- Your hook is your topic of each paragraph!!
- You need two pieces of evidence to support your hook:
  - *Wayne Gretzky has 2857 points, almost 1000 more than 2nd place Jaromir Jagr who has 1921.*
  - *Wayne Gretzky has more assists 1963 than any other player has points*

# Persuasive Essay – Call to Action

## Call to Action

The **call to action** which comes right before the end of a **persuasive** speech is where you clearly tell the audience a role they can play after they leave your talk. The **CTA** gives audience members concrete tasks to tackle, and these tasks are ones that must be completed in order to bring your ideas to fruition

*I have given you my opinion and shown you the facts. You should support me in saying that Wayne Gretzky is the best hockey player. Gretzky, Gretzky, Gretzky!!!!!!!!!!!!!!*

# Persuasive Essay – Format

## **Paragraph One:**

State your opinion/point of view and a brief description of your 3 reasons.

## **Paragraph Two - Four:**

Detailed description of reason number one. Please be specific by giving facts or specific reasons to support your point of view.



# Persuasive Essay – Format

**Paragraph Five:**

Summarize your thoughts. *Call to Action!*

**Double check your spelling, punctuation, and capitalization!**

# Persuasive Essay – example

Demand Writing #1 - Think of an activity that you enjoy when you're not in class. You are going to convince someone else that this would be a fun activity to try. Write about how you would convince them, including how you take part in the activity and what makes it fun.

*As I walk through the luscious beach, not only can i feel the rough sand between my toes, but the smell in the air takes a hold of me leaving me breathless. The activity I think that everyone needs to experience more is going to the beach. This is my favorite activity to do in the summer and **one** that you should try!*

# Persuasive Essay – example

*Obviously going to the beach means you have to live near one. While most people tend to think that the beach requires sand (like Golden Sands; my personal favorite), there are many beaches around St. John's that are made of stones. These beaches (like Marine Park in Pouch Cove, Middle Cove Beach or Topsail Beach) are still plenty of fun to go to, and let me tell you why!*

# Persuasive Essay – example

*While the beach is a marvelous place to be, you have got to remember to bring everything you need. The most important requirement is bring as many friends as possible. Going to the beach by yourself would not be fun. Since the beach is full of sand and rocks, bring those sandals or your feet will hurt. Sunscreen is vital along with a hat and sunglasses; you don't want Mr. Sun ruining your day. A beach towel is extremely important as well since lying on the sand can cause burns to your body ruining your trip. Lastly BRING LOTS OF FOOD!!! Remember not to go swimming if you just ate because that can upset your tummy. This leads me to the best part of going to the beach, the food!*

# Persuasive Essay – example

*Have you ever experienced a boil up at the beach? I have, and it's my favorite thing to do. Everyone goes swimming for a bit, playing in the pond or ocean and then once you are hungry, you break out the pot, start a fire and cook up a feast. There is nothing better than a spot of beans, sausages, fish and toast thrown right on the fire. Everyone gathers around for a sing a long afterwards, signing your heart out under the starry night sky. When the day turns to night, everyone tells ghost stories, roasting marshmallows, drinking their favorite nightcap. A night swim can also be fun to on those really hot days when the night time water is still warm.*

# Persuasive Essay – example

*I sincerely hope that each and everyone of you get to experience going to the beach this summer. There is no where I would rather be than soaking up some rays and relaxing on the beach with my wife and dog. Max loves going to the beach, although he doesn't love when I throw him into the water. So go, get to your closest beach this summer, hopefully you will have more fun than him when you jump in!!*

# Persuade Me!

**YOUR TASK:** Write a \_\_\_\_ paragraph persuasive essay.

**TOPIC:** Who is the BEST superhero of all time?

In order to complete this assignment you must do the following:

- Gather information on your superhero.
- You may need to get information on other popular superheroes to draw a comparison in your essay.
- Decide the main factors that make your superhero the GREATEST!
- Support those main facts with information, details, or stories that the superhero has experienced.
- Put your information into an outline.
- Turn your outline into an essay.
- REMEMBER- You want to provide solid facts to prove that YOUR superhero is the GREATEST!