

Building an Argument

6th Grade

Claim, evidence, reasoning, and the counterclaim that lifts the grade.

An argument is not an opinion loudly stated. It is a claim with support and an answer to the other side.

CLAIM

1

Your position, in one arguable sentence.

EVIDENCE

2

Facts, data or quotations. Cite where they came from.

REASONING

3

Explain how the evidence supports the claim. Do not assume it is obvious.

COUNTERCLAIM

4

State the strongest objection fairly, not a weak version of it.

REBUTTAL

5

Explain why the objection does not defeat your claim.

If nobody could reasonably disagree with your claim, it is a fact, not an argument.