

Argument Essay Frame

7th Grade

Claim, evidence, reasoning, counterclaim, rebuttal, with sentence stems.

Marks live in the counterclaim. An essay that never argues with itself scores in the middle.

1

CLAIM

The position you are arguing.

"Schools should start later because..."

2

EVIDENCE

Facts, data or quotations that support it.

"According to a 2024 study,..."

3

REASONING

Why the evidence proves the claim.

"This matters because..."

4

COUNTERCLAIM

The strongest objection, stated fairly.

"Some argue that..."

5

REBUTTAL

Why the objection does not defeat you.

"However, this overlooks..."

6

CONCLUSION

Restate the claim and its stakes.

"The evidence makes clear that..."

Claim → Evidence → Reasoning. Every body paragraph, every time.