

WRITING: Persuasive

What is a persuasive essay? It is writing that gives an opinion and attempts to persuade the reader to accept that opinion. Persuasive writing can be found in newspapers, magazines, and books. You will be writing a five paragraph essay expressing the elements of persuasive writing on a topic of your choice.

The characteristics of persuasive writing are:

- States an opinion
- Uses convincing reasons and arguments that contain factual research
- Acknowledges the opposing the opposing (opposite) view

Good persuasive writing uses words that bring out emotions in the reader. It is not boring! It makes the reader feel upset, happy, sad, etc. depending on the writer's purpose. It convinces the reader to feel the way you want him/her to feel.

Pre-Writing:

1. Identify the purpose: What is it you want to say?
2. Identify your audience: Who do you most need to convince?
3. Develop guiding questions/main ideas.
4. Think of possible sources to use for your research.
5. Research! Be sure to take notes and record all information you will need to complete a "Works Cited" page. You will need a minimum of three sources. These sources will include at least one print source, one web source, and one data base. Begin searching for reliable sources on Easy Bib. In Easy Bib, create a new project folder for this research.

Draft:

1. What is your main idea?
2. What three supporting facts will you include?
3. What words can you use to express emotion and get your audience to feel strongly?
4. Use appropriate and effective transition words.
5. What is the counter-argument to your claim?
6. Are you writing to the correct audience?
7. Type your rough draft. (12 font/double-spaced/Times New Roman or Arial)

Revise:

1. Is your purpose (main idea) clear?
2. Where can you elaborate (provide more details)?
3. Where can you remove information that may be irrelevant?
4. Does your writing flow? Is your essay easy to understand?
5. Check your sentences. What sentences need to be improved? Do they express complete thoughts? Are there run-on sentences?
6. Check your misspelled words.

7. Check for correct use of punctuation.
8. Check fluidity. Does your writing flow well? Read it aloud to check. Are the paragraphs in logical order? Do they have enough support?
9. Check your grammar. Do your subjects and verbs agree? Do you use only one point of view and one verb tense? Have you avoided using slang or double negatives?
10. Bring this paper with your printed copy of the rough draft. You will ask these same questions when editing your peer's paper.

DUE: _____

Publish:

You are now ready to make corrections to your rough draft and print a copy of your final draft. Remember 12-point font/Times New Roman or Arial. Be sure to use the MLA heading for your paper: name, title, date, left justified, single-spaced. Be sure your works cited page is included and in MLA 7 format.

Creating your Speech:

The last part of this assignment is to share your topic as a speech. Your speech should cover the main points of your essay and should be 2-3 minutes in duration. Convince your peers that the opinion stated in your paper is the right one. You are not allowed to read from your paper. You should make note cards that list the main points and guide your speech. You are required to have a visual aid. Details of the visual will follow in a separate guide sheet later.

Persuasive Writing Schedule:

Topics are found on Mrs. Parks' persuasive writing lib guide webpage and are subject to approval.

Topic: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Topic and parent signature due: Friday, Feb. 3

Research begins: Monday, Feb. 13

Research notes check: Friday, Feb. 17

Rough draft is due: Monday, Feb. 27

Final draft is due: Friday, Mar. 3

Presentations: Monday, Mar. 13 – Wednesday, Mar. 15