

How To Write an Argumentative Essay

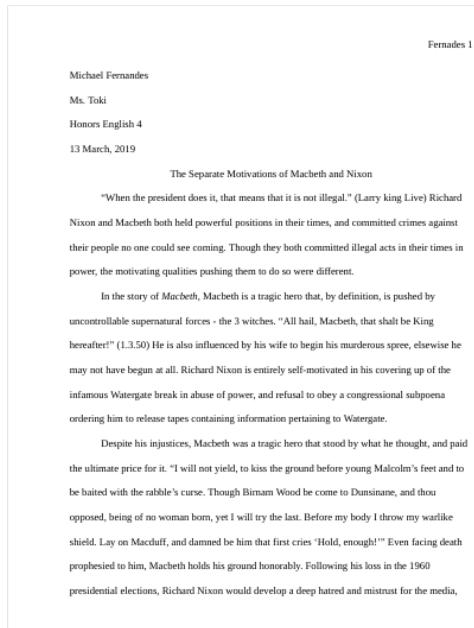
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Argumentative essays are not a particularly easy undertaking, but for most, they are necessary at some point in life. For a simple introduction to writing your own essay, read further.

First, choosing a side to argue. You'll want to then find three or so reasonable arguments for your side, and decide which are the strongest. Deciding might be difficult alone, a partner might be able to shed further insight on which are more convincing. Now that you've got an argument, and specified further, fleshing these out into a body is necessary.

For the body, there are usually four parts, but more or less can be acceptable. Starting the body should be the second strongest of your arguments, with quotations or references if applicable. Following that should be the weakest argument of your repertoire, then changing pace to a counter. The counter paragraph(s) should be reasonable arguments against your own, including details or quotations. The final part of your body text should be your final argument, the strongest of them. This will lead into your conclusion and strongly impress your argument upon readers.

Now that the body is complete comes two parts of the essay as yet unaccounted for. To start, the introduction. This first paragraph will go over what the essay is about, starting with the hook. This should be something relevant to the topic such as a quote, important detail, or rhetorical question that will intrigue people, and get them to read the essay. Following this should come a little background information, a light overview of



The first page of an MLA formatted argumentative essay, written by yours truly.

your topic and the opposing sides. The introduction should be concluded with a thesis statement, one of the most important parts of the entire essay. The thesis statement tells the audience what side you stand for, and is what you're arguing for in the body of the essay. This is also the beginning of the end; the conclusion.

The conclusion is usually the last part of the essay worked on, mostly due to the need for a thesis. Starting the conclusion; readdressing the thesis in light of the information presented in the body text. This reminds readers of the main idea of the essay, and after reading the body of it, they might find it a more appealing standpoint

with some context. After this, you'll follow similarly to the introduction paragraph in recounting the main points of the argument. The last few sentences are to be used to explain why this is an important topic the reader should think about, and how it pertains to the world. Rhetorical questions and quotes work quite well here.

If you've followed this to a dime, well then you have an essay, don't you? Well, yes, and no. The final part of your essay would be formatting it to the MLA structure, which is difficult, but usually necessary. Further information can be found here: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html