

English Language Arts Common Core Regents Preparation Guide

Argumentative Essay Part II

For this section of the Common Core English Language Arts Regents, you must create a detailed argumentative/persuasive essay based on a topic which will always be presented in the form of a question. Multiple texts will be presented for you to read and thereafter, determine what textual sources will be included in your essay.

Paragraph One: Introduction:

1. Begin with one-two questions that gets your reader thinking about the focal topic. You may choose to include the topic question as one of your focus questions within the introduction.

Example: Questions may begin with Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How.

2. Introduce the topic with at least two to three sentences, giving your reader insight into the focus of your essay.

Example: The debate is an ongoing one primarily because...

This issue continues to be at the center of an ongoing debate because...

3. Tell your reader what are some of the viewpoints regarding the focus topic.

Example: There are those who hold the position that _____, while others believe _____

Some believe _____ while others affirm that _____

4. State your claims. This will be your thesis, upon which the body of your essay will support.

Example. Therefore after careful consideration, one must conclude that...

Thus, after close analysis, one may be led to conclude that...

Hence, one must surmise that...

Paragraph Two: Support your claim by referring to Text I

1. Begin with a topic sentence that introduces the first article that will be used to support your stance.

Example: There are many sources that clearly support the stance that _____

2. Give some insight into the first article/text that will be used to support your claim using one-two sentences.

Example: In the first article entitle "NAME OF ARTICLE" the focus is centered on...

3. Present an excerpt/quote from text one that supports your claim.

Example: For example the text states " "

4. Explain how the first quote taken from article one supports your claim.

Example: This substantiates the stance that _____ primarily because...

5. Provide a second example from text I that further supports your claim.

Example: Another example that further substantiates the claim can be seen where the text states...

6. Again explain how the second example further supports your claims.

Example: This reinforces the claims by revealing/showing/confirming...

Paragraph Three: Support your claim by referring to Text II.

1. Present a topic sentence to introduce the second article that will be used to support your stance.

Example: Additional support for the stance that _____ can be seen another source presented.

2. Give some insight into the second article that will be used to support your claim using one-two sentences.

Example: In the second article entitle "NAME OF ARTICLE" the focus is centered on...

3. Present an excerpt/quote from text II that supports your claim.

Example: For example the text states " "

4. Explain how the first quote taken from text II supports your claim.

Example: This substantiates the stance that _____ primarily because...

5. Provide a second example from text II that further supports your claim.

Example: Another example that further substantiates the claim can be seen where the text states...

6. Again explain how the second example further supports your claims.

Example: This reinforces the claims by revealing/showing/confirming...

Paragraph four: Counterclaim Paragraph (Identify the text that goes against your claim. Refer to text III or IV)

1. Begin with a topic sentence that introduces the article that presents the opposing side to your argument.

Example: While the stance presented thus far clearly supports the viewpoint that _____, the opposing side is also presented.

2. Begin this paragraph by focusing on the side that conflicts with your argument/perspective.

Example: On the opposite side of the spectrum, many believe....

Example: On the other hand, there are those who hold the opinion that...

3. Present the first quote/excerpt that supports this opposing side.

Example: For example, text III entitled " _____ " states...

4 Explain how the first example supports the other side.

Example: This supports the stance that...

5. Provide another from the text that supports the opposing side.

Example: In addition, the text also reinforces that _____, specifically wherein it states " _____ ."

6. Again explain how the second example can be used to convey the other side's perspective.

Example: This reinforces/reiterates/shows.....

Paragraph Five: Conclusion

1. Conclude by presenting another quote or fact from one of the texts presented that supports your claim.

Example: The text entitled “_____” further gives support to the claim that _____ by revealing...

2, Explain why this quote further supports your stance.

Example: Again, this reiterates/reinforces/shows...

3. Refer to any graphs, charts, or diagrams to further support your claim.

Example: According to the chart.... According to the diagram... According to the graph...

4. Restate your claim which was originally presented in your introduction.

Example: As stated...

5. End with a question that gets the reader thinking about the topic further.