

Name: _____

Period: _____

Date: _____

Building Your Argument - Body Paragraphs

➔ What is Your Argument/Reason?

Give ONE argument/reason that supports your claim (this will be your topic sentence).

➔ What Evidence Supports this ONE Argument/Reason?

Include at least THREE pieces of evidence to back your argument up (evidence includes: expert quotes, facts, statistics etc.). Make sure this paragraph is focused on this ONE argument ONLY.

➔ Connect Your Evidence to Your Argument

Explain how the evidence supports your argument and your overall claim, and why it's important.

☒ Don't forget to include a TRANSITIONAL word, phrase or sentence to link one argument to another (each reason will have its own paragraph; the beginning or end of each paragraph should include a transition).

Ex. ●Also... ●In addition... ●Furthermore... ●Similarly... ●Next... ●Not only...but also... ●In the same way...

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Building Your Argument - Counterclaim/Rebuttal and Conclusion

↳ Name a Counterclaim

What might someone who disagrees with your claim or one of your arguments say (the other side)?

↳ Create Your Rebuttal

Your rebuttal is an answer to the counterclaim. Be sure to include evidence that proves the counterclaim wrong.

Tip Counterclaims and rebuttals are often part of their own paragraph within an essay. However, many writers include the two within a body paragraph when appropriate.

↳ Conclude Your Essay

Restate your claim. Make sure to remind the reader of your stance. Restate does not mean repeat!

↳ Deliver the "Knockout Punch"

Give your reader something to think about long after they stop reading. Reinforce your arguments, refer back to a fact or question from your introduction, answer "so what?", explain how your topic relates to the reader, suggest a solution, call the reader to help with the cause etc... Remember, you are trying to WIN this argument.
