

Argumentative Writing Assignment Rough Draft Checklist



Introduction

- Does your introduction begin with a strong attention getting statement?
- Do you clearly spell out the issue and establish common ground with your reader?
- Is your claim clear and direct?
- Does your thesis add reasons to your claim and set up the organizational structure of the rest of the essay?



Ethos

Body Paragraphs (You should have at least three)

- Do the reasons you use to support your thesis statement begin each body paragraph?
- Do you defend each reason with logical and specific supporting evidence from credible sources that reflects more than just your opinion, and that is aimed to get your reader to consider the issue in a way that they haven't already?
- Do you close each paragraph with a strong closing that ties your supporting evidence back to your thesis statement and that helps you transition to the next idea?

Logos

Ethos

Counter Claim

- Does your counter claim show an awareness and respect for the opposing point of view and their strongest argument?
- Do you follow up that content with a strong rebuttal that shows why your argument is even stronger than their point?

Ethos

Conclusion

- Does your conclusion revisit your claim and thesis summarizing your major points using language that avoids sounding repetitious?
- Does your conclusion end with a final thought or piece of evidence that you haven't already shared that puts the hammer down closing the deal on your argument? This final statement should cause your audience to think more about your original point.

Pathos