Argumentative Essays

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Today’s Outline

Brainstorming

Topic Sentence

Building

Intro

Types

Conclusion

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Love Triangles

Bicycle

Train

Car

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Quick Planning - Mindmaps

- Wide range of uses: from Internet site design to brainstorming in meetings
- Generate ideas about 30% faster

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Steps to planning!

- Draw a Mindmap as fast as possible
- Select 3-5 ideas (In an exam, just choose by instinct)
- Each of those ideas can then be made into a paragraph
- Once complete – reread your work
- Write a conclusion...
- Check grammar and spelling

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Planning It...

For

Against

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Speed Writing

- Use instinct...
- Use ideas generated
- Write as fast as possible
- Don’t go over word limit by too much...
- Allow time to check
I had a wonderful summer.
First, I started sleeping in every day.
I would then go swimming with my friends.
I stayed up late watching TV a lot, and I went to camp for a week.
I wished my summer would never end!
Topic Sentence - Answers

- a
- a
- a
- d – story approach
- a
- d – 1st sentence to set context
- b – 1st sentence for interest
- b
Building an Argument
Building an Argument
Smoking should be banned from public places

Smoking is dirty.
- Leave ash
- Leave cigarette butts
- Smells bad
- Causes irritation to the eyes
Building an Argument
Smoking should be banned from public places

Smoking is dangerous

- Careless smokers cause fires
- Causes throat & lung cancer
- Causes heart disease

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Summarizing text

- Look for topic sentences
- Highlight them
- Look for other key facts
- Put together a short summary of this information

Key skill for PMR exams
Cleaning the toilets...
Argumentative – Brainstorm

Let’s make students clean the toilets...

• Do you agree?
• Does anybody else think the same as you?
• Why do you think that?
• Can you understand the other side?
• Why are they wrong?
Creating an Introduction
For exams reword the question

Should students be made to clean the toilets?

Students should be made to clean the toilets.
Add your Opinion...

- Students should clean the toilets.
- Students should not clean the toilets.
In Japan, students are expected to clean their own toilets and the government believes that this practice may encourage students to be more respectful of their school environment. I believe that students should be made to clean the toilets.
Argumentative – Order

Let’s make students clean the toilets...

• Introduce topic - agree / disagree
• Tell us why – ideas and examples
• Different opinions – not important or not true
• Brief summary

STRONG LAST SENTENCE
Vocabulary

- First point - First of all / To begin with / To start with
- Connect points – And / Also / Furthermore / What’s more / As well
- Change sides – On the other hand / conversely / But / That said
- Conclude - In conclusion / Therefore
- Examples - For example / For instance
Main Body – Types of Argument
Big Names

Important people or experts can make your argument seem more convincing.

Example: Jackie Chan says that he enjoys the odd chocolate bar...
Facts and Numbers

Facts, numbers, and information can be very convincing.

Example: A Snickers bar has 280 calories and 30 grams of sugar. That's not very healthy.
Emotions

Getting people to feel happy, sad, or angry can help your argument.

Example: Eating chocolate reduces the suffering of gingerbread men...
Research

Using reliable research can help your argument seem convincing.

Example: A recent study found that students who eat chocolate have better concentration.

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Writing a conclusion

Three Strategies:
- Using Quotes
- So What?
- Summarising the points
A Quote...

- Whether you think you can or whether you think you can't, you're right. *Henry Ford*

- You see things; and you say 'Why?' But I dream things that never were; and I say 'Why not?' *George Bernard Shaw*

- Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up. *Jesse Jackson*
So What...

A: Basically, I'm just saying that education was important to Douglass.

B: So what?

A: Well, it was important because it was a key to him feeling like a free and equal citizen.

B: Why should anybody care?

A: That's important because plantation owners tried to keep slaves from being educated so that they could maintain control. When Douglass obtained an education, he undermined that control personally.
Summarise points

- Look at your topic sentences
- Try to bring them altogether for a conclusion
- End with a final statement
Your Choice...

- Are neighbours helpful or a disturbance?
- Do branded clothes cause social cliques?
- Do uniforms help people to be more united?
- Do different cultures make it difficult for people to get along?
Conclusion

- Plan it
- Write a quick introduction
- Arguments
  Big Names, stats, research and emotions.
- Conclusion
  So what / Quote / Summarise
- Once complete – reread your work

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