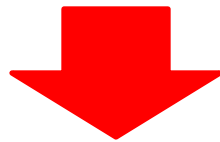




# **ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY**

# When to use argument writing?

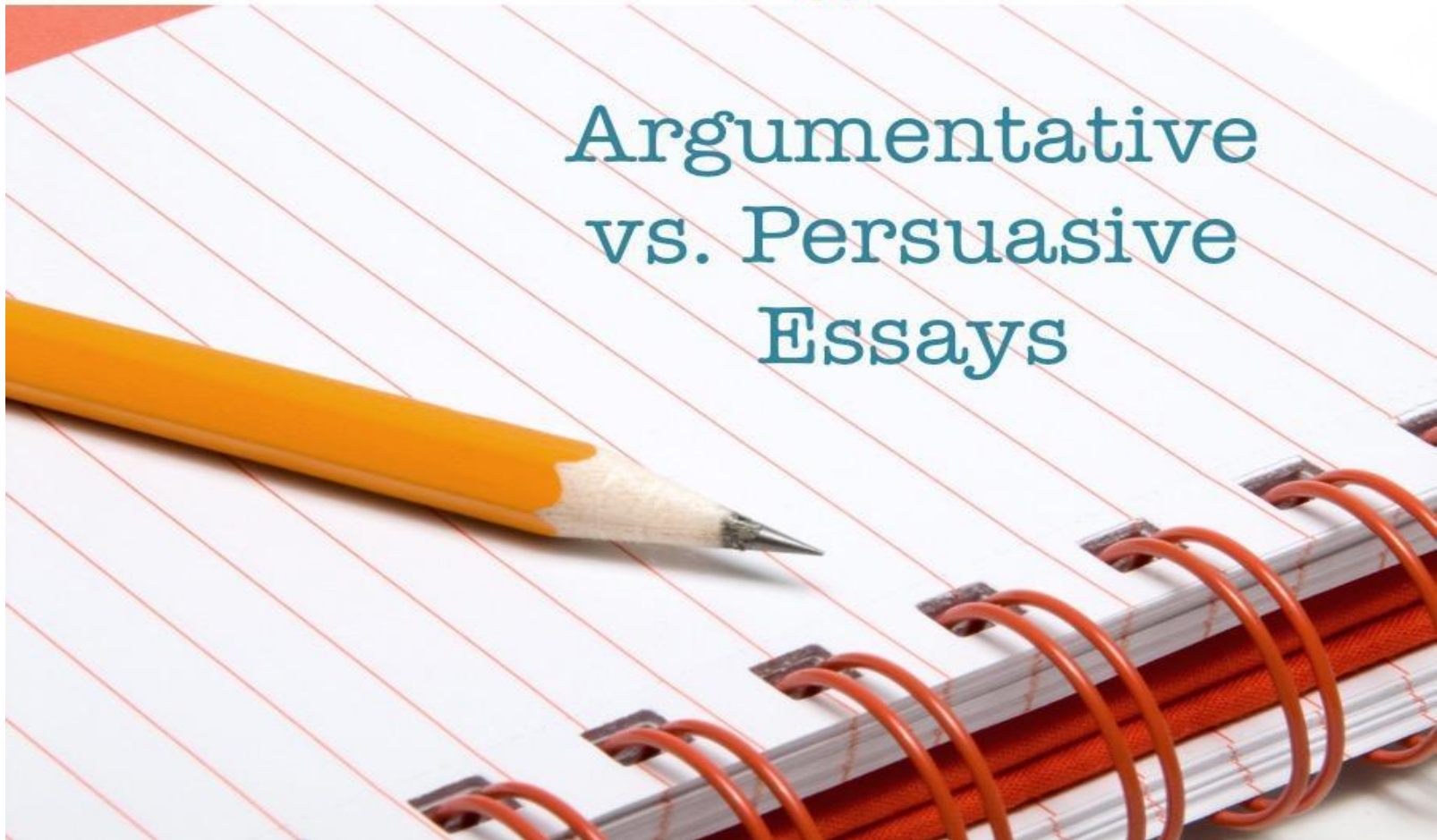
- **When you have an opinion about a given topic and try to prove it with reliable arguments and evidence or convince the reader to accept it.**



# Is argumentative writing the same as persuasive writing?

*What's the Difference?*

Argumentative  
vs. Persuasive  
Essays



**YES**



**Both try to persuade, by presenting strong logical claims and supporting evidence**

**but**

**NO**



**Persuasive writing is more opinion-based.**

**Argumentative writing is mainly research-based**

# **Main types of argumentative essays**

- **Advantages and disadvantages**
- **Providing solutions to problems**
- **Expressing arguments for and against a topic**

# **Expressing arguments for and against a topic**

**For example,  
argue for or against the  
pandemic reponse policies  
pursued by  
the governments of states  
worldwide**

# Thesis Statement

**The argumentative thesis takes a side of an issue**

So the thesis statement for the topic above might be:

***“Governments should suspend the lockdown measures”***

Someone else might argue:

***“Governments worldwide should extend the lockdown in their states”***

# Organizing the body

## **CLAIMS**

- **Your opinion or position on an issue**
- **Must be supported with evidence**
- **(facts, data, quotes)**
- **Evidence must be explained**

## **COUNTER CLAIMS**

- **Consider the opposite side**
- **Or turn against your argument to challenge it**
- **Refute / rebut the counter argument to reaffirm your position**



# Introduction

Introduce the topic, give background information, provide a rationale, and **the thesis statement**

Your first argument /claim + evidence,

Your second Argument /claim + evidence,

Your third argument/claim + evidence

**B**

**O**

**Refutation:**

other side's arguments + **your rebuttal**

**D**

**Y**

# Conclusion

**Restate your premise** and summarize the claims/reasons your thesis makes sense

# Introduction

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other side's arguments + **your rebuttal**

**Y**

# Conclusion

**Restate your premise** and summarize the claims/reasons your thesis makes sense

# Refutation/Rebuttal Paragraph

- This is also used to support your claim.
- Use the counter arguments to show that your idea is the stronger one.
- Do not focus only on the opposing ideas.

## Reminder: 'Rebut' And 'Refute' Do Not Mean The Same Thing

- **Rebut:** To contradict ... or oppose, esp. in a formal manner by argument, proof, etc. as in a debate.
- **Refute:** To prove (a person) to be wrong; confute. ... To prove (an argument or statement) to be false or wrong, by argument or evidence."
- ***To rebut is to try to prove something isn't true, but to refute is to actually prove it isn't.***

# Useful Words & Phrases

Useful words and phrases

When you can think of the opposing opinion but you have not seen it written anywhere:

It could be claimed  
may be asserted that... However,  
might be argued

- **For more useful words and phrases, see the file in Additional Materials on Moodle**

# Tips

- **Avoid strong feelings** (e.g. nobody does this, it is impossible to disagree with me)
- **Use generalizations** (e.g. people say/believe/consider) **but**
- **Do not use generalization** (e.g. everybody believes that...)
- **Do not use strong personal expressions** (e.g. I think)
- **Use linking words** (e.g. therefore, although, however etc.)
- **Use sequencing** (e.g. firstly, secondly, lastly)
- **Make reference to other sources** (e.g. The government claims that...)
- **Give examples - not personal thoughts** (e.g. products such as sprayer can destroy the environment)
- **Give up banal** (unoriginal, boring) **introductions. Write something more original** (Don't write: This topic has been important since ancient times.)

