

Persuasive Writing

Prep Writing

Objective:

- Understand how to effectively structure a persuasive essay
- Define and review examples of a hook, thesis statements

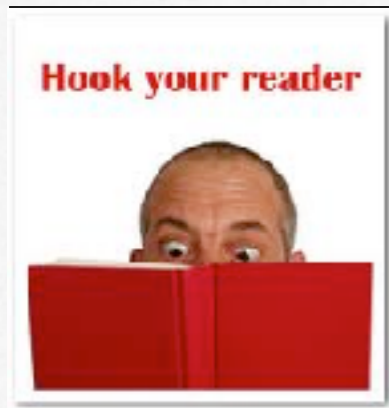
Persuasive Writing



- Convince the reader to believe or do something
- Buy a product
- Convince reader to accept a point of view
- RESEARCH
- use **FACTS**, not **OPINIONS**

- 1. Have a firm opinion/solution that you want your reader to accept.**
- 2. Begin with a grabber or hook to get the reader's attention.**
- 3. Offer evidence to support your opinion.**
- 4. Conclude with a restatement of what you want the reader to do or believe.**





Hook Your Reader

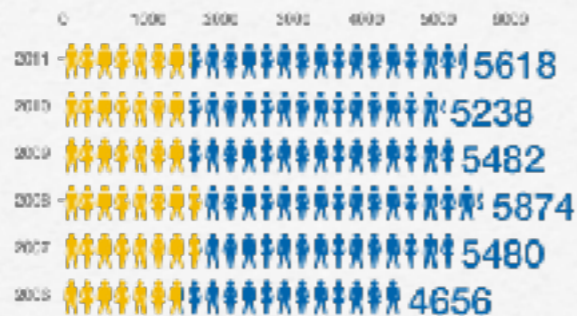
**Start with an amazing hook.
Your hook is the first
sentence that draws the
reader in.**

**Your hook can be:
a question
a quotation
a fact or statistic
a definition.**

**Set the tone,
make your reader want to
continue reading,
and you've done your job!**



HOOK: Examples



1. INTERESTING FACT: Manitoba, because of its cold climate, is not thought of as a great place to be a reptile. Actually, it has the largest seasonal congregation of garter snakes in the world

Cigarettes are the number one cause of lung cancer in Canada!

1. QUOTATION: Elbert Hubbard once said , "Truth is stronger than fiction."

HOOK: Examples

3. RHETORICAL QUESTION: Have you ever considered how many books we'd read if it were not for television?

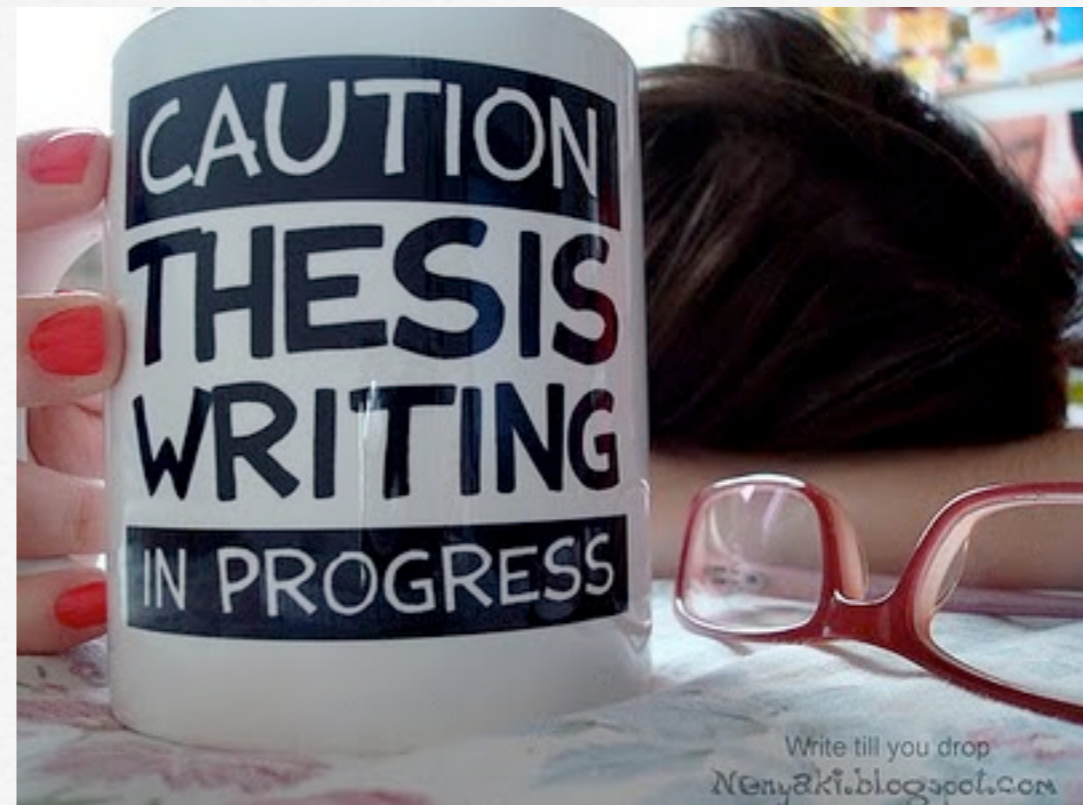
A rhetorical question is one that most people know the answer to)

- HYPERBOLE: The whole world watched as the comet flew overhead.



Thoughts on Thesis

- Your thesis statement is a short summary of what you're arguing for.
- It's usually one sentence, and it's near the end of your introductory paragraph.

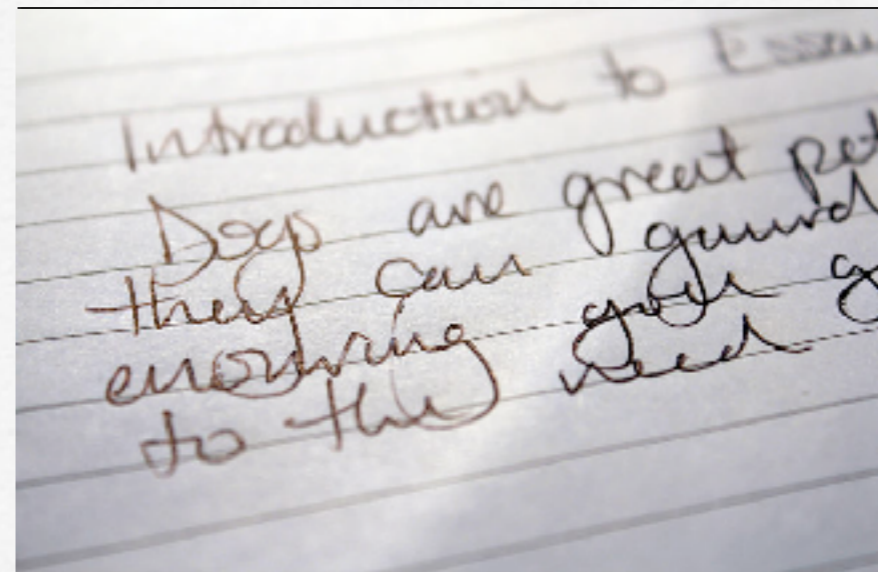


Make your thesis a combination of your most persuasive arguments, or a single powerful argument, for the best effect.

Thesis

An effective thesis statement identifies the following:

1. The topic.
2. The point of the essay or the main ideas that will be discussed.
3. Your position towards the topic.



Effective Examples of Thesis

Thesis Statement Example 1

Wrong: "Electric cars are better vehicles because they have benefits."

[This does not compare electric cars to another type of vehicle in terms of benefits.]

***Correct:* "Electric cars provide a viable alternative to gasoline-fueled cars because the benefits outweigh the costs."**



Thesis Statement Example 2

Wrong: "Smoking should be prohibited."

[This thesis statement is too vague or ambiguous apart from being too short. It does not really argue for or against any specific point.]

***Correct:* "There should be an absolute ban against smoking in public because secondhand smoke endangers the health of non-smokers."**

Effective Examples of Thesis



1. "I maintain that it is possible to stop most drug addiction in the United States within a very short time through legalization, making them available to the public, and selling them at cost."

Effective Examples of Thesis

2. At least 25 percent of the federal budget should be spent on helping upgrade business to clean technologies, researching renewable energy sources, and planting more trees in order to control or eliminate pollution.



Effective Examples of Thesis



- 3. In order to end the AIDS epidemic, public awareness and government contributions to AIDS research funding must increase.**

Effective Examples of Thesis



4. Evidence clearly demonstrates that music education promotes cognitive development, thus funding music programs at all levels of the school system should be a high priority for state governments.



**KEEP
CALM
AND
KEEP
WRITING**

Thesis Sentence Starters

I will review ...

It has been determined that ...

It has been shown that ...

It is interesting to study ...

Learning about ...

Let's discover ...

Let's find out about ...

Lets explore ...

**Most people don't realize
that ...**

Soon you will understand ...

Taking the time to ...

We can begin to comprehend ...

We can identify ...

We will uncover ...

While discovering ...

While investigating the ...

Why not observe ...

Would you recognize ...

You can identify ...

BODY PARAGRAPHS

Justify your opinions and present your evidence.
Remember, if you don't provide evidence and facts, your argument will not be persuasive.



For example, don't just say: **"Dolphins are very smart animals. They are widely recognized as being incredibly smart."**

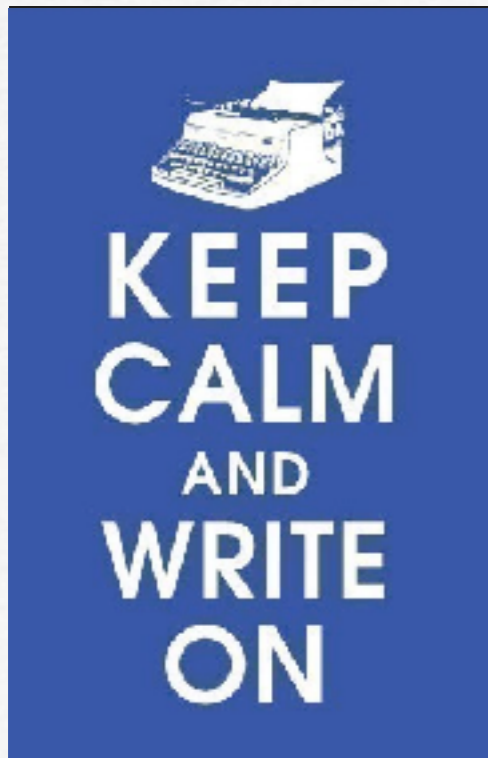
Instead, say: **"Dolphins are very smart animals. Multiple studies found that dolphins worked in tandem with humans to catch prey. Very few, if any, species, have developed mutually symbiotic relationships with humans."**



BODY PARAGRAPHS



When possible, use facts as your evidence. Agreed-upon facts make your statements valid. If possible, use facts from different angles to support one argument.



1. "The South, which accounts for 80% of all executions in the United States, still has the country's highest murder rate. This makes a case against the death penalty working as a deterrent."
1. "Additionally, states without the death penalty have fewer murders. If the death penalty were indeed a deterrent, why wouldn't we see an *increase* in murders in states without the death penalty?"

give REASONS

2 FACTS 2 EXAMPLES

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

5 Paragraph Essay Outline

Introduction

Thesis

Body Paragraph 1 Body Paragraph 2 Body Paragraph 3

Conclusion

© Knowledge.com - Free School Stuff

Name: _____

Date: _____

Topic:

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Fact/Example:

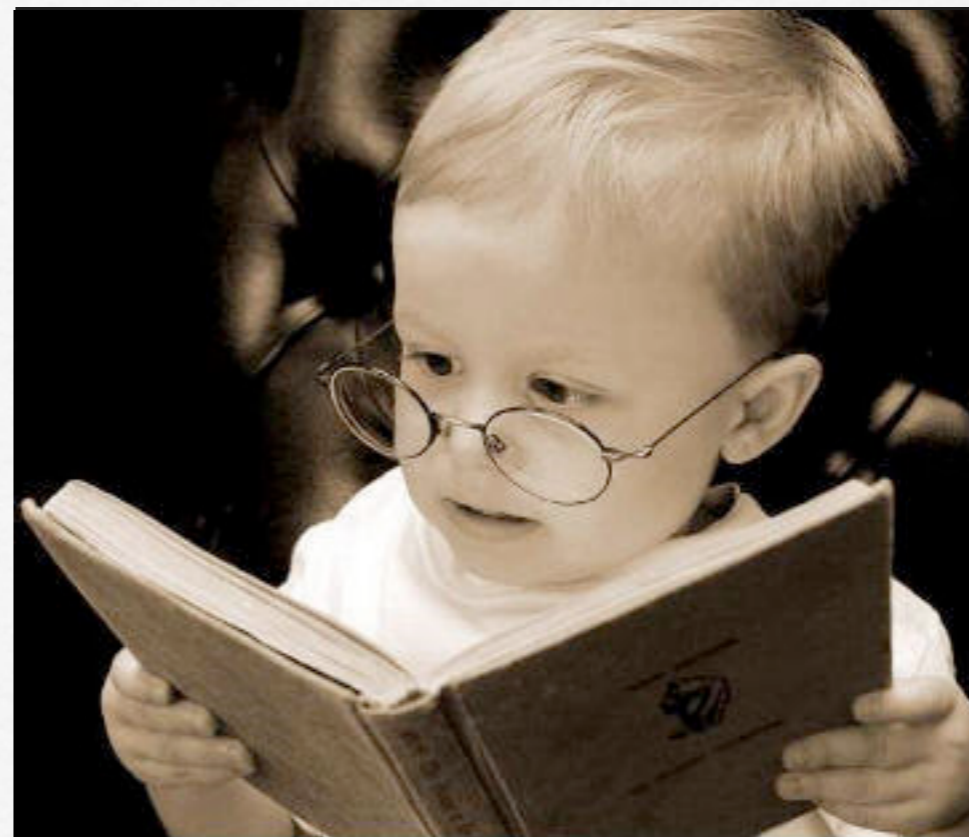
Fact/Example:

Fact/Example:

Fact/Example:

Conclusion

Restate each of your main points and end the essay with a probing thought. If it's something your reader won't easily forget, your essay will have a more lasting impression.



Transitions

To show contrast:

Yet,
However,
Still, Nevertheless,
On the other hand, In
contrast, Instead of,
On the contrary,
Conversely,
Notwithstanding, In
spite of this

To illustrate an idea:

For example,
For instance,
In particular

To restate an idea more precisely:

To be exact,
To be specific,
To be precise,
More specifically,
More precisely

To show cause and effect:

As a result,
For this
reason,
Therefore,
Hence,
Consequently,
Accordingly

Time:

At once,
In the interim, At
length, Immediately,
At last, Meanwhile,
In the meantime,
Presently,
At the same time,
Shortly,
In the end,
Temporarily,
Thereafter,

To mark a new idea as an addition to what has been said:

Similarly,
Also,
Too,
Besides,
Furthermore
Further,
Moreover
In addition

To repeat an idea:

In other
words,
That is,
To repeat,
Again

Conclusion:

In short,
To conclude, In brief,
On the whole, In
summary
To sum up