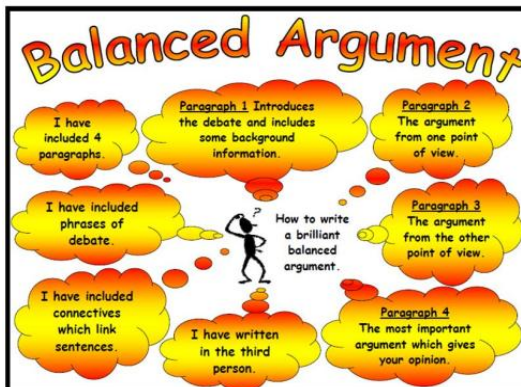


Some questions to get you thinking:

- What is a balanced argument?
- Why do we debate?
- Why do we need to look at both sides of an argument?
- What are the key features of a balanced argument?
- What is a rhetorical question?

Questions for a balanced arguments:

- Question 1 Should mobile phones be banned?
- Question 2 Do you agree with school uniform?
- Question 3 Should homework be scrapped?
- Question 4 Should children be allowed to vote?
- Question 5 Should we come to school on the weekend?



The Structure of a Balanced Argument

Title

The title should include the topic of the argument.

Hook

The first line of the argument, usually includes a rhetorical question.

Introduction

Introduces the argument and the context of it including any historic background and statistics.

Arguments For

Explain all the arguments in agreement with the question. Use examples and evidence to support ideas.

Arguments against

Explain all the arguments in disagreement with the question. Use examples and evidence to support ideas.

Conclusion

A summary of the key points of the argument and includes the writer's opinion.

Key Vocabulary and definitions:

Argument An exchange of diverging or opposite views.

For In favour of the argument.

Against In opposition to the argument.

Rhetorical question A question that doesn't require an answer but makes the reader think.

Hook A sentence that gets the reader engaged straight away.

Opinion A view or judgement made about something. Usually a person's point of view.

Formal writing Writing that uses Standard English and no slang.

Conjunctions a word used to connect clauses or sentences or to coordinate words in the same clause.

Conclusion The summing up of the argument. Includes the writer's opinion.

Present Tense A tense expressing an action that is currently going on

Third Person A narrative voice that uses 'he' 'she' 'they' or 'it.'

Evidence The available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid.

Debate A formal discussion on a particular matter in which opposing arguments are put forward and which usually ends with a vote