



Classical Argument Common Questions

Writing Center Hours: 8:30 AM - 8:30 PM M-Th,
8:30 AM- 4:30 PM F, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM S-S
Email: okc.tutoring@okstate.edu
Phone: 405-945-3278

Definition: The classical argument essay calls for you to take a stance on one side of a heated issue. You will need to present arguments as well as consider opposing arguments before refuting them.

Common Questions:

Question: *What do I write about?*

Answer: You are arguing one side of an issue with supporting evidence and reasoning, but you must also consider what someone with the opposite opinion would say about it as well. Finally, remind the reader why your opinion is correct.

Question: *How do I start?*

Answer: Describe the existing debate. Tell us everything we need to know in order to understand your argument.

Question: *How do I end it?*

Answer: A good way to end is by reviewing your main arguments and rebuttals. Finally, reassert your claim that what you are arguing is correct.

Question: *What is a claim?*

Answer: This is your overall argument for the essay. Tell the reader which side of the issue you are on. This should appear in your Thesis statement.



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Question: *How do I write an argument?*

Answer: The argument is the criteria you will use to describe why your claim is correct. It is often the “because” part of your claim. Basically, write your reasons why you believe in your side of the argument

Question: *What is an objection?*

Answer: Before you get into the rebuttal or even acknowledge what the opposing argument has to say, it is important to include an objection. An objection allows you to acknowledge the opposing argument without admitting it is right. This should be roughly one paragraph.

Question: *What is a rebuttal?*

Answer: Once you have stated what the opposite side thinks, tell us why they are wrong and you are right. It is important to use sound logic and solid reasoning. This should be roughly one to two paragraphs.