



## Evaluation 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



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**Definition:** An evaluation essay calls for you to evaluate something of your choice. This could be a movie, restaurant, amazon item, or anything that you could critique. This is written in the style of a Toulmin argument.

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### **Common Questions:**

Question: *What do I write about?*

Answer: You are arguing if something is good or bad using 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 what it is you are critiquing. If it is a movie, then give us a quick synopsis. 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 critiquing is either great or terrible.

Question: *What is a claim?*

Answer: This is your overall argument for the essay. Tell the reader if what you are evaluating is good or bad. This should appear in your Thesis statement.



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Question: *What are grounds?*

Answer: Grounds are your evidence. This is what you will use to directly support your claim. It is important for your evidence that you cite any quotes you may use in APA or MLA format.

Question: *What is a warrant?*

Answer: The warrant is the criteria you will use to describe why your argument is correct. It is often the “because” part of your argument. Basically, it is the reasoning behind your claim.

Question: *What is Backing?*

Answer: The backing explains why the warrant is a good reason that fully supports the claim.

Question: *What is a qualifier?*

Answer: Before you get into the rebuttal or even acknowledge what the opposing argument has to say, it is important to include a qualifier. A qualifier allows you to acknowledge the opposing argument without admitting it is right.

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.