

Argument Checklist of Minimum Requirements

Paragraph 1 (Introduction)
Hook
Thesis (<i>Short statement of your opinion you will provide evidence on...</i>)
Background information (<i>Helpful historical insight that supports why the issue is important. This can take up to 3 sentences.</i>)
List of all reasons you will give in essay (3 minimum) <i>Firstly, secondly, thirdly...</i>
Transition sentence

Paragraph 2 (Topic – Reason 1)

Topic sentence (states 1st reason listed in introductory paragraph)

Counter-argument (You may think...however...)

Evidence from a minimum of two different sources (statistics, expert opinions, quotes, personal anecdotes)

Transitioning statement to next paragraph

Paragraph 3 (Topic – Reason 2)

Topic sentence (states 1st reason listed in introductory paragraph)

Counter-argument (You may think...however...)

Evidence from a minimum of two different sources (statistics, expert opinions, quotes, personal anecdotes)

Transitioning statement to next paragraph

**Paragraph 4 (Topic – Reason 3)
Strongest Reason**

Topic sentence (states 1st reason listed in introductory paragraph)

Counter-argument (You may think...however...)

Evidence from a minimum of two different sources (statistics, expert opinions, quotes, personal anecdotes)

Transitioning statement to next paragraph

**Paragraph 5 (or Closing Paragraph)
Building Momentum and Energy**

Topic sentence (reminding reader of thesis and overall reasons)

Sentences to **help reader understand why he/she should care...**

Push to make reader want to take action to support your thesis.

Closing inspirational message

Note: Use effective linking words: *for instance, in order to, in addition, specifically, this is important because, this shows that, this proves that, this has shown me that, this made me realize, in contrast, especially, another, for example, also, more, but, and, because*
