

THE CREDIBLE MUSKIE

IN: THE ARGUMENT OUTLINE

"You wouldn't like me when I'm angry! Because I always back up my rage with facts and documented sources!"



CLAIM

A claim states your position on the issue you have chosen to write about.

- A good claim is not obvious.
- A good claim is engaging: Teach the reader something new.
- A good claim is not overly vague.
- A good claim is logical.

WARRANT

The warrant interprets the data and shows how it supports your claim. In other words, the warrant explains why and how the data proves the claim.

- A good warrant will be a reasonable interpretation and analysis of the facts.
 - A good warrant will not make illogical interpretive leaps.
 - A good warrant will not assume more than the evidence supports.
- "What else must be true for this position to hold?"

EVIDENCE

Use evidence to support your claim. Like a lawyer presenting evidence to a jury, you must support your claim with facts.

- An unsupported claim is merely an assertion or pronouncement.
- Facts or statistics
 - Expert opinion
 - Primary research
 - Personal anecdotes

INTRODUCTION

What is the issue you are discussing? What is your position on this issue? State your claim.

Issue: _____

Position: _____

Claim: _____

SUPPORTING PARAGRAPHS

- Good supporting paragraphs consist of:
- Commentary explaining why your evidence is relevant.
 - A topic sentence which expands and defends your claim.
 - Evidence to support your topic sentences.
 - Commentary explaining why your evidence is relevant (Warrant).

GAMMA-BOMB DATA

- Understand that all evidence is not equal. Evaluate good data from bad.
- facts or statistics
 - expert opinion
 - primary research
 - personal anecdotes

THE CREDIBLE HULK DELIVERS A FIRST MIGHTY BLOW!

Support Topic One:

Evidence: _____

Source: _____

Warrant: _____

Further Analysis: _____

THE CREDIBLE HULK RAGES WITH A SECOND HIT!

Support Topic Two:

Evidence: _____

Source: _____

Warrant: _____

Further Analysis: _____

HULK SMASH!

Support Topic Three:

Evidence: _____

Source: _____

Warrant: _____

Further Analysis: _____

MEANWHILE . . . AN EVIL LURKS IN THE SHADOWS!

For a Counter-Claim/Refutation, choose and discuss the strongest argument against your claim. Make your position clear, that you disagree with the counter claim, while you systematically, and logically, state why the counter-claim is wrong.

Counter Claim: _____

Refutation: _____

CONCLUSION

Summarize the most important points and why they are relevant. Finish off with why you won this argument. Be direct, stay on topic, and don't introduce any new evidence.

Point 1: _____
 Point 2: _____
 Point 3: _____
 Why did you win? _____

**IN THE NEXT EXCITING ISSUE!
 THE CREDIBLE HULK RETURNS IN:
 THE ESSAY!**