

**P** → Position

**E** → Evidence

**A** → Argument

**S** → Solution



**PEAS**

### Things to know about persuasive writing

#### What is a Persuasive Essay?

*It is a convincing argument in favor of or in opposition to an issue.*

When writing a persuasive essay, your job is to persuade the reader that your position is better than the alternative. The answer you find is the claim. The persuasive essay has the same structure as other essays: thesis/introduction, body, organization and support.

Writing assignments can sometimes be difficult; however, words are the most powerful weapon in the world. With the power of the word, you can create an efficient persuasive essay.

#### Position

1. Take a stand on one side of the issue, make a **claim**.
2. Clearly describe the problem or state your purpose

#### Evidence

1. Make sure the evidence is relevant.
2. Distinguish facts from opinion
3. Clarify meaning with examples, demonstrate why

#### Consider these things:

1. As you read, where does most of the evidence lead you? Choose a thesis that supports your evidence thoroughly.

a. I believe that the \_\_\_\_\_ modern myth is (true/false, pick one), because of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

2. What is evidence? Proof to support your thesis. (Books or Internet sources)

a. Source #1 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Source #2 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Source #3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. As you read, sort your evidence into categories because you need three main points.

a. Category #1 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Category #2 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Category #3 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Types of evidence:

***Eyewitness testimony***

Events that people claim they witnessed (weakest type of evidence)

Not more than one main point should be concerned with what eyewitnesses say!

***Scientific evidence***

Most people don't argue with science! Studies that prove or disprove your thesis

***Artifacts***

Items that support your thesis. People can see and touch them, and people believe what they see.

***Photographs, Audio tape, Video tape***

More convincing than eyewitness but are a little weaker.

**Argument**

1. Show the opposing viewpoints to be incorrect or wrong
2. Use a neutral tone
3. Consider the opposition's reasons and answers them diplomatically

**Solution**

1. Restate main claims or points
2. Offer a positive solution or recommendations
3. Establish common ground with the audience or opposition