

# Argue Your Point Task Cards



## ELA Core Plans

Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans

Thank you for purchasing this teaching unit. We hope you love it!  
Tammy and Shannon



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**DO NOT POST ONLINE.**

**By Shannon Temple and Tammy Lewis**

**ELA Core Plans**

**S&T Publications, LLC**

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# Argue Your Point Task Cards

Use these cards orally, individually, or for small group work. You can also create a writing center using these cards!

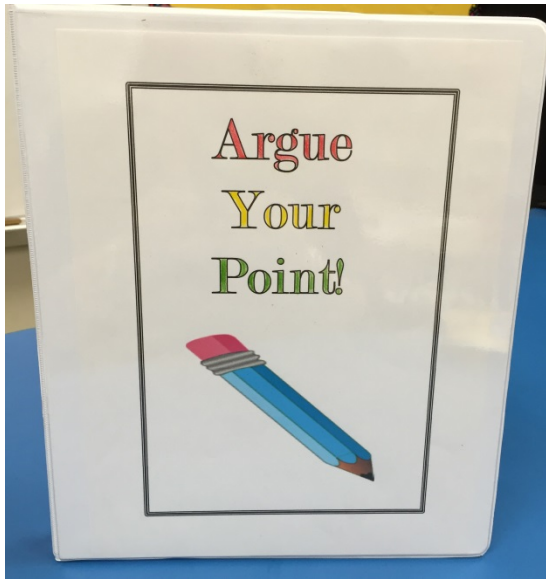
There are two separate sets of task cards in this resource. One of them contains only the argumentative prompts and asks students to make a claim and write a paragraph in support. The other set of task cards requires students to do different things, like examine prompts, facts, or arguments or make a list of pros and cons. Some ask for the counterargument. Take a look at both sets and use them as you wish.

If you want to use these as a center activity, you can follow these directions:

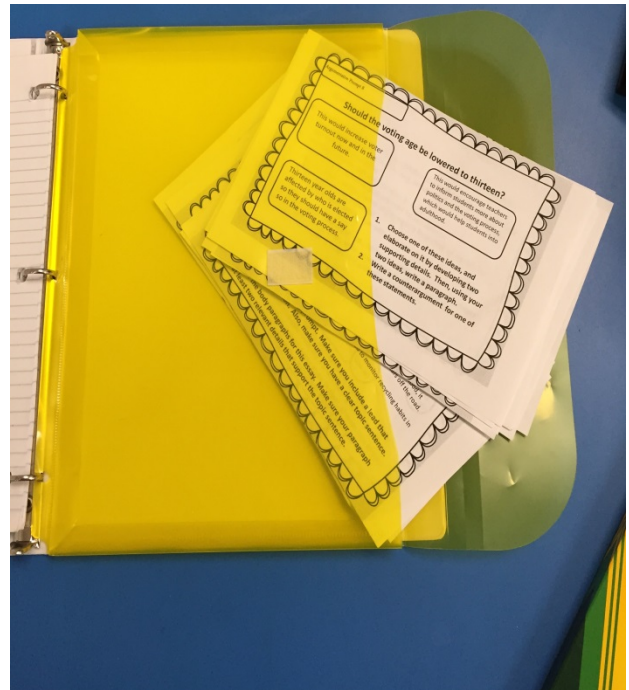
- Print the set of task cards that you wish to use on cardstock and cut them out. Or, if you do not cut them, place them in page protectors.
- Place them in a folder, three ring binder, or basket. We have found that a three-ring binder works best.
- Copy the directions on the next page, and place in a page protector. This should be placed first in the binder or folder. If you are using folders, you can tape these directions on the outside or inside of the folder.
- There is a list of frequently asked questions. Place this page right behind the directions page. This way, students can reference this before asking a question.
- There is also a sample paragraph that can be placed in the notebook.
- Place notebook paper in the center, binder, or in the folder for students to use as they complete the activities.

Students may need to use a computer for this center to look up facts for the argumentative prompt. Of course, you do not have to allow this.

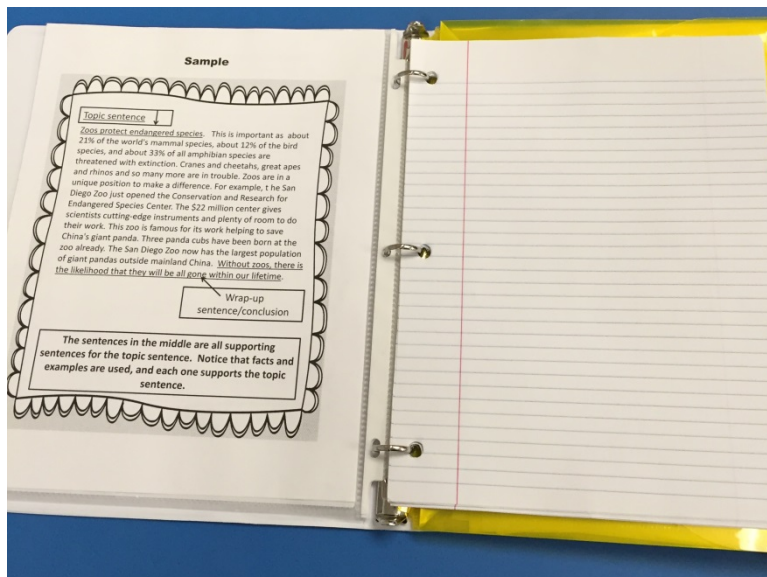
# A Peek Inside The Center



Everything fits nicely in a three-ring binder!

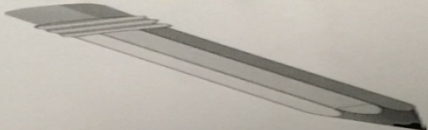


These pocket folders with holes can easily hold task cards.



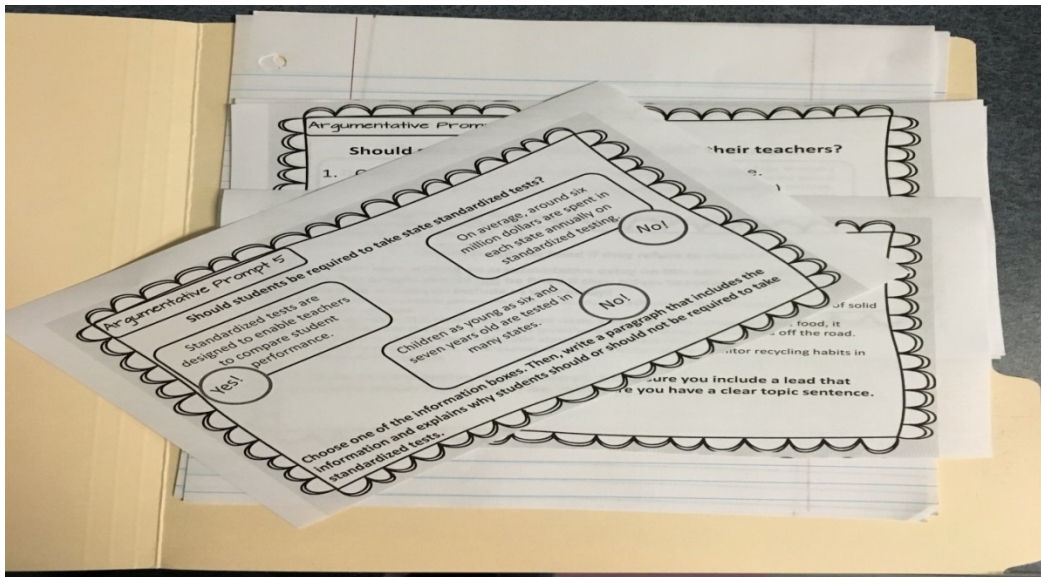
Place the sample and notebook paper inside so students know what to do and have the paper needed.

# Argue Your Point!



Directions

1. Complete one prompt card.
2. Do not write on the prompt card. You will write on notebook paper.
3. Write your name on a sheet of notebook paper.
4. Write the number of the prompt on your notebook paper. (ex. Prompt # 4)
5. Answer each part of the prompt on the notebook paper.



Blank cards are provided at the end of this resource for you to create more prompts. 😊

### Directions

1. Complete one prompt card.
2. Do not write on the prompt card. You will write on notebook paper.
3. Write your name on a sheet of notebook paper.
4. Write the number of the prompt on your notebook paper. (ex. Prompt # 4)
5. Answer each part of the prompt on the notebook paper. Write your paragraph on the notebook paper as well.
6. If more than two people are using this center, pair up with a partner to complete the questions on the card. Each set of partners should use a different card. If there are three people using the center, you may all three work together. However, no more than three people may work together.

# Frequently Asked Questions About Directions

**Q. If I am working with a partner, can only one of us write the answers, or do we both have to write ?**

A. You both need to write the answers so that each of you has a finished product to be graded.

**Q. How long does my paragraph need to be?**

A. Your paragraph should be at least five sentences, if not more. Follow the guidelines and look at the sample.

**Q. Can I choose any of the prompts that I want, or do I have to start with number one?**

A. You may choose any prompt that you wish.

**Q. Is a thesis statement the same thing as a main idea?**

A. Yes

**Q. If the directions ask me to say whether examples are *for* or *against* a particular idea, do I need to rewrite each of those ideas on my notebook paper?**

A. No, you can just write the statement number and then *for* or *against*. For example, Statement 1: against, Statement 2: for, etc.

**Q. Where do I write the answers and the paragraph?**

A. On a sheet of notebook paper

**Q. Can I write my paragraph on the same page as my other answers/work?**

A. Yes, that is fine.

**Q. Can I use the Internet to help look up facts for the paragraph?**

A. Yes. Do not get off task. You are not allowed to use the Internet for any other purpose.

**Q. What do I do if I finish early?**

A. First, read over your work. Make sure your paragraph is neat and makes sense. Did you capitalize the first word of every sentence? Do you have any run-on sentences or fragments? Do you need to look up any words that you may have misspelled? Once this is complete, work on the early finish work that your teacher provides.



# What should be included in an argumentative body paragraph?

## **1<sup>st</sup> Sentence** - Thesis (main idea) Statement

- a. should be one of your major reasons/one of your claims
- b. should be clear and easy to understand

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Evidence/Reason** (Use one of the following for this sentence. Make sure it supports the main idea.)

- ☐ facts
- ☐ personal experience
- ☐ statistics
- ☐ experts

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Evidence/Reason** (Use one of the following for this sentence. Make sure it supports the main idea.)

- ☐ facts
- ☐ personal experience
- ☐ statistics
- ☐ experts

## **4<sup>th</sup> Evidence/Reason** (Use one of the following for this sentence. Make sure it supports the main idea.)

- ☐ facts
- ☐ personal experience
- ☐ statistics
- ☐ experts

## **5<sup>th</sup> Wrap-up sentence/Conclusion**



# Sample

Topic sentence ↓

Zoos protect endangered species. This is important as about 21% of the world's mammal species, about 12% of the bird species, and about 33% of all amphibian species are threatened with extinction. Cranes and cheetahs, great apes and rhinos and so many more are in trouble. Zoos are in a unique position to make a difference. For example, the San Diego Zoo just opened the Conservation and Research for Endangered Species Center. The \$22 million center gives scientists cutting-edge instruments and plenty of room to do their work. This zoo is famous for its work helping to save China's giant panda. Three panda cubs have been born at the zoo already. The San Diego Zoo now has the largest population of giant pandas outside mainland China. Without zoos, there is the likelihood that they will be all gone within our lifetime.

↖  
Wrap-up  
sentence/conclusion

**The sentences in the middle are all supporting sentences for the topic sentence. Notice that facts and examples are used, and each one supports the topic sentence.**

# Student Work Sample

Prompt #17

For or Against

Reason 1: For

Reason 2: Against

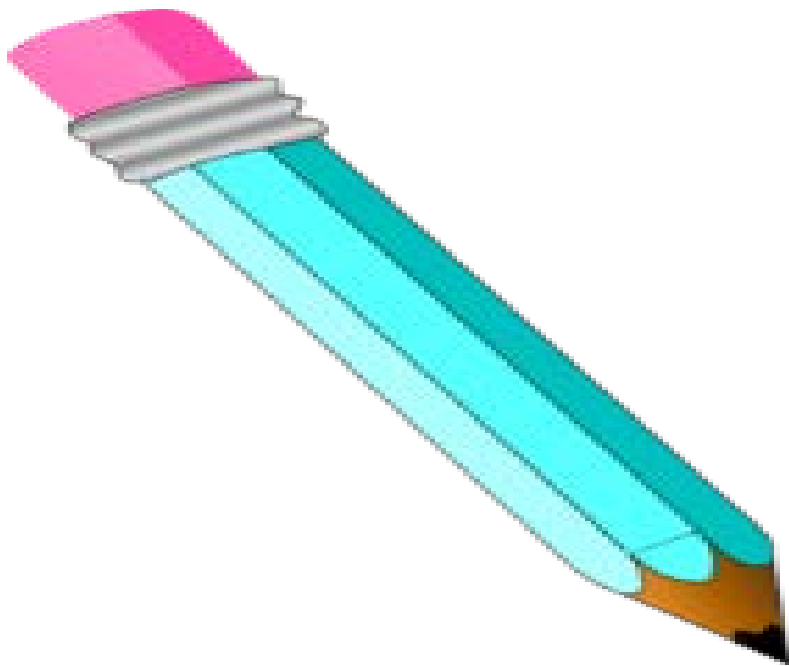
Reason 3: Against

For: students should get extra time to socialize, so they won't in class

Against: Student would come back in stinky and sneaky

I think middle school students should have recess so students could learn communication skills, student get higher test score after being active, and students won't talk in class. Since students learn communication skills they will be able to use it later in life such as in: Job interviews and college applications. If student are getting higher test scores the probability of getting accepted into a good college increase tremendously.

ARGUE  
YOUR  
POINT!



### Argumentative Prompt 1

**If it could be made possible, should NASA send humans to Mars to live?**

It could take up to 10 months to travel to Mars.

No!

Scientists have found that when humans spend a lot of time away from Earth's gravity, the human body can suffer.

No!

The dinosaurs roamed the planet for 165 million years, but the only trace of them today are their fossils. An asteroid wiped them out.

Yes!

**Choose one of the information boxes. Then, write a paragraph that includes the information to explain why humans should or should not be sent to Mars to live.**

### Argumentative Prompt 2

**Should the school day be shortened by 90 minutes?**

1. Complete a pros and cons chart for this issue.

| Pros (reasons for) | Cons (reasons against) |
|--------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                        |

2. Write a thesis statement (topic sentence) for this prompt.
3. List three reasons you would use to support your claim.
4. Use your thesis statement and some reasons that you listed to write a paragraph arguing your claim.

### Argumentative Prompt 3

Cameron has to write an argumentative essay on why kids should receive an allowance from their parents. Read her ideas, and then answer the questions.

- *Every child should receive an allowance by the time he/she is six years old.*
  - *Children will learn the value of money at an early age.*
- *Money should be given for chores done around the house and for good grades.*
  - *Kids can learn how to keep a budget and become better at math.*
- *Parents should stick with a regular schedule, whether it's weekly or monthly, and let their children plan for and anticipate their "income".*

1. Choose one of Cameron's ideas and elaborate on it by writing a paragraph that includes three supporting details.
2. A counterargument is the "other side" of the argument. Which of the following would be a counterargument to Cameron's essay?
  - a. Instead of being driven by self-motivation, children learn to work hard just to earn the extra cash.
  - b. Kids can be taught to save, spend, donate, and invest with their allowance.
  - c. Through a regular chore routine, kids will grow to understand that they have to be responsible and that they have obligations that are counted upon by others
  - d. Not all children receive an allowance.

### Argumentative Prompt 4

**Should all Americans have the right to own firearms?**

1. If you were writing an argumentative essay on this topic, and your claim was that owning fire arms is wrong, which of the following would you not include in your essay?
  - a. statistics showing high murder rates by guns
  - b. the fact that sometimes guns are used for self defense
  - c. that you have a better chance of staying safe by putting up no defense when confronted by a criminal
  - d. statistics that show that people who own guns are mostly responsible
2. Choose a side for this argument. Write your claim, and list three reasons to support your claim. Then, write a paragraph on one of those reasons. Make sure your reason is supported with relevant details.



### Argumentative Prompt 5

**Should students be required to take state standardized tests?**

Standardized tests are designed to enable teachers to compare student performance.

Yes!

On average, around six million dollars are spent in each state annually on standardized testing.

No!

Children as young as six and seven years old are tested in many states.

No!

Choose one of the information boxes. Then, write a paragraph that includes the information and explains why students should or should not be required to take standardized tests.

### Argumentative Prompt 6

**Should students be allowed to “grade” their teachers?**

1. Complete a pros and cons chart for this issue.

| Pros (reasons for) | Cons (reasons against) |
|--------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                        |

2. Write a thesis statement (topic sentence) for this prompt.
3. List three reasons you would use to support your claim.
4. Use your thesis statement and some reasons that you listed to write a paragraph arguing your claim.

### Argumentative Prompt 7

**Should people be fined if they refuse to recycle?**

**1. If you were writing an argumentative essay on this topic, and your claim was that people should not be fined if they refuse to recycle, which of the following would you include in your essay?**

- a. The average person generates over 4 pounds of trash every day and about 1.5 tons of solid waste per year.
- b. We generate 21.5 million tons of food waste each year. If we composted that food, it would reduce the same amount of greenhouse gas as taking 2 million cars off the road.
- c. Americans throw away 25,000,000 plastic bottles every hour.
- d. A tremendous amount of resources would have to be used to monitor recycling habits in order to fine people.

**2. Write an introduction for this prompt. Make sure you include a lead that grabs your reader's attention. Also, make sure you have a clear topic sentence.**

**3. Write one of the body paragraphs for this essay. Make sure your paragraph contains at least two relevant details that support the topic sentence.**

### Argumentative Prompt 8

**Should the voting age be lowered to thirteen?**

This would increase voter turnout now and in the future.

This would encourage teachers to inform students more about politics and the voting process, which would help students into adulthood.

Thirteen year olds are affected by who is elected so they should have a say so in the voting process.

- 1. Choose one of these ideas, and elaborate on it by developing two supporting details. Then, using your two ideas, write a paragraph.**
- 2. Write a counterargument for one of these statements.**



### Argumentative Prompt 9

**Should students be provided with a snack to eat in class?**

Statement 1:

According to the National Peanut Board, food allergies of all types affect approximately 4 to 6 percent of school-age children.

For or  
against?

Statement 2:

48.8 million Americans—including 16.2 million children—live in households that lack the means to get enough nutritious food on a regular basis. As a result, they struggle with hunger at some time during the year.

For or  
against?

Statement 3:

Crumbs on the floor can cause roaches and other bugs.

For or  
against?

**Read each statement in the boxes. Decide whether these statement could be used to argue for or against students receiving a snack during class. Then, list two other reasons for or against a snack being given in class. Choose one of your reasons for or against a snack, and write a paragraph arguing your point.**

### Argumentative Prompt 10

**Should students as young as fourteen be allowed to hold jobs?**

1. Complete a pros and cons chart for this issue.

| Pros (reasons for) | Cons (reasons against) |
|--------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                        |

2. Write a thesis statement (topic sentence) for this prompt.
3. List three reasons you would use to support your claim.
4. Use your thesis statement and some reasons that you listed to write a paragraph arguing your claim.

## Argumentative Prompt 11

### Are professional athletes paid too much money?

If you were writing an argumentative essay on this topic, and your claim was that professional athletes are not paid too much, which of the following would you include in your essay?

- According to an article in *Bloomberg Businessweek*, numerous athletes have had to file for bankruptcy due to poor choices with their money.
- The National Basketball Players Association estimates that 6-to-8 percent of NBA players end up broke.
- A career-ending injury is a potential outcome every single time athletes take to a court, a track, or a field.
- Athletes are cool and they need a lot of money.

Write an introduction for this prompt. Make sure you include a lead that grabs your reader's attention. Also, make sure you have a clear topic sentence. Next, write one of the body paragraphs. Make sure you include at least two supporting details for your topic sentence.

## Argumentative Prompt 12

For her English class, Zya has to write an argumentative essay on why art and music classes should not be cut from school. Read her ideas, and then answer the questions.

- Art and music classes should never be cut from school.*
- Arts and music education programs are mandatory in countries that rank consistently among the highest for math and science test scores, like Japan, Hungary, and the Netherlands.*
- Multiple studies have concluded that curricular and extracurricular art studies and activities help keep high-risk dropout students stay in school.*
- New brain research shows that not only does music improve skills in math and reading, but it promotes creativity, social development, personality adjustment, and self-worth.*
- For some students, art and music is a strength, and they should have the opportunity to develop this strength at school.*

Choose one of Zya's ideas, and write a paragraph that includes three supporting details.

Write one counterargument that Zya could address in her essay, and explain how she could refute this counterargument.

### Argumentative Prompt 13

#### Should students in America attend school year round?

If you were writing an argumentative essay on this topic, and your claim was that Americans should not go year round, which of the following would you not include in your essay?

- a. statistics that show a decrease in students' retention of information over extended school breaks
- b. the fact that teenagers will not be able to use a summer job to save money for college
- c. the fact that families will be able to take vacations during off-peak times to save money
- d. reports that year-round calendars will help with overcrowded schools

If your claim was in favor of year-round schools, what reasons could you use to support it? List three reasons. Then, choose one reason to elaborate on by writing a paragraph.

Summer provides children with educational opportunities that they may not get while in school. This includes things such as enjoying a library summer reading program, learning to swim, attending summer camp, or vacations. Summers off give children time to explore their world and learn without being graded. - Dr. William White (1988)

If you were going to use the information above, what would your claim be?

- a. Year-round school should not be considered in America.
- b. Year-round school would offer many benefits for students, their parents, and school communities.

### Argumentative Prompt 14

#### Should animals be kept in zoos?

1. Complete a Pros and Cons chart for this issue.

| Pros (reasons for) | Cons (reasons against) |
|--------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                        |

2. Write a thesis statement (topic sentence) for this prompt.
3. List three reasons you would use to support your claim.
4. Use your thesis statement and some reasons that you listed to write a paragraph arguing your claim.

## Argumentative Prompt 15

### Are we too dependent on computers?

If you were writing an argumentative essay on this topic, and your claim was that we are too computer dependent, which of the following would you not include in your essay?

- a. statistics that show computers provide an escape from problematic social or family life
- b. the fact that teenagers often find themselves glued to the computer waiting on a notification from a friend
- c. the fact that “gamers” gain a sense of control in cyber worlds that they cannot experience in their own world
- d. reports that computers make our lives easier

If your claim is that we are not too dependent on computers, what reasons could you use to support it? (List three reasons.) Then, choose one reason and write a paragraph.

Computers may cause children to be more focused on the events in an artificial world rather than real life. Children could develop an intolerance for human interaction.

Brod, C. (1984) *Technostress: The Human Costs of the Computer Revolution*. Michigan: Addison-Wesley.

If you were going to use the information above, what would your claim be?

- a. Computer dependency can become a problem for many.
- b. We cannot become dependent on a computer; an addict is dependent on a drug, and a computer is obviously not a drug.

## Argumentative Prompt 16

1. For his science class, Davis has to write an argumentative essay on why the United States should rely on alternative energy sources instead of fossil fuels. Read his ideas.

- *Not only are fossil fuels harmful to the environment, one day the world's oil and gas reserves will run out.*
- *Alternative energy sources, like solar power, is clean and environmentally friendly.*
- *Traditional sources of energy (gas and petrol) cause enormous problems for the environment.*
- *Alternative energy is never ending and renewable because natural resources like the sun and water will never be exhausted.*
- *Research in alternative energy would help create a pollution free environment.*

2. Choose one of Davis' ideas, and write a paragraph that includes at least two supporting details.

3. Which of the following would be a counterargument to Davis' essay?

- a. To build and maintain facilities that produce renewable energy, millions will be given job opportunities.
- b. The burning of fossil fuel contributes to global warming.
- c. Research will work to reduce the costs associated with alternative energy.
- d. The cost of using solar power to generate energy is much higher when compared to processing petroleum.

## Argumentative Prompt 17

### Should recess continue into middle school?

Statement 1:

Recess provides children with the opportunity to socialize and use real communication skills.

For or  
against?

Statement 2:

Studies show that students that are physically active have improved academic performances, higher test scores, and have better attitudes about school.

For or  
against?

Statement 3:

To add time for recess, many schools may find a need to lengthen the school day.

For or  
against?

Read each statement in the boxes. Decide whether these statements could be used to argue for or against recess continuing into middle school. Explain how for each. Then, list two other reasons for or against having recess in middle school. Finally, write a paragraph elaborating on one of your reasons.

## Argumentative Prompt 18

### Should homework be banned in schools?

1. Complete a Pros and Cons chart for this issue.

| Pros (reasons for) | Cons (reasons against) |
|--------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                        |

2. Write a thesis statement (topic sentence) for this prompt.
3. List three reasons you would use to support your claim.
4. Use your thesis statement and some reasons that you listed to write a paragraph arguing your claim.



## Argumentative Prompt 19

### Is Social Media Bad for People?

Statement 1:

We can contact anyone around the world, at any time, with just a few keystrokes. It is free, unlike calling across the ocean.

For or  
against?

Statement 2:

Social media has allowed us to hide behind screens and limited our social interaction face to face.

For or  
against?

Statement 3:

Social media has some serious repercussions on productivity. People are using social media while they are supposed to be working.

For or  
against?

**Read each statement in the boxes. Decide whether these statement could be used to argue that social media is bad for people or good. Then, list two other reasons to support your claim on this issue. Choose one reason and support it in a paragraph.**

## Argumentative Prompt 20

### Should schools have a dress code?

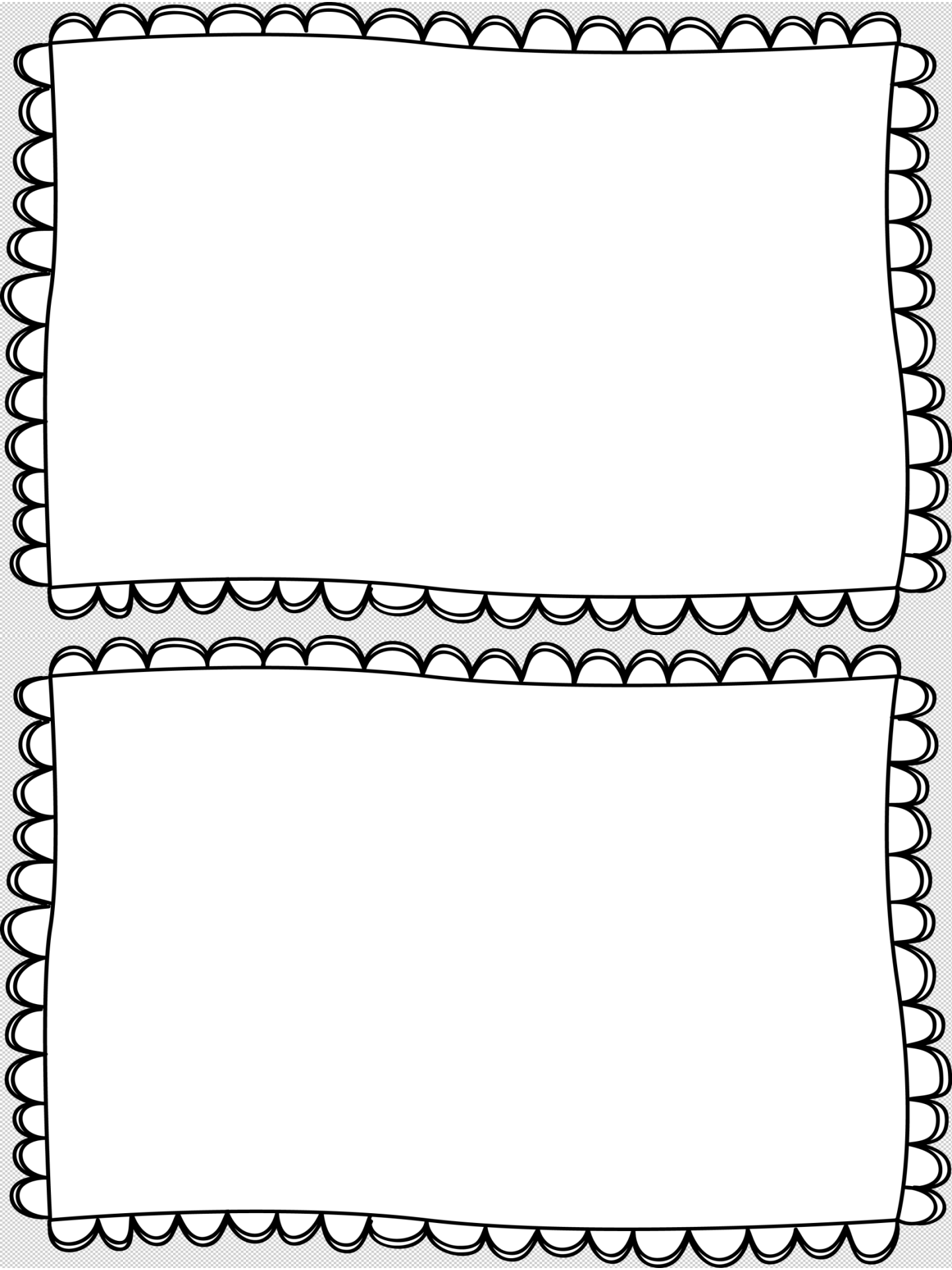
1. Complete a pros and cons chart for this issue.

| Pros (reasons for) | Cons (reasons against) |
|--------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                        |

2. Write a thesis statement (topic sentence) for this prompt.

3. List three reasons you would use to support your claim.

4. Use your thesis statement and some reasons that you listed to write a paragraph arguing your claim.





# Set 2

The next set of cards only has the prompts. These cards require students to write a paragraph that makes a claim and supports one main idea in a paragraph.

Directions and Frequently Asked Questions are included for this set as well.

### Directions

1. Complete one prompt card.
2. Do not write on the prompt card. You will write on notebook paper.
3. Write your name on a sheet of notebook paper.
4. Write the number of the prompt on your notebook paper. (ex. Prompt # 4)
5. If your teacher allows, you may use the Internet to look up facts or statistics that may be needed to support your claim. You may **not** use the Internet for any other reason.
6. If more than two people are using this center, pair up with a partner to complete the paragraph. Each set of partners should use a different card. If there are three people using the center, you may all three work together. However, no more than three people may work together.

# Frequently Asked Questions About Directions

**Q. If I am working with a partner, can only one of us write the paragraph, or do we both have to write ?**

A. You both need to write the paragraph so that each of you has a finished product to be graded.

**Q. How long does my paragraph need to be?**

A. Your paragraph should be at least five sentences, if not more. Follow the guidelines and look at the sample.

**Q. Can I choose any of the prompts that I want, or do I have to start with number one?**

A. You may choose any prompt that you wish.

**Q. What is a claim?**

A. A claim is the side that you take on the issue or argument. For example, if the prompt is *Should animals be kept in zoos?*, your claim will either be *Animals should be kept in zoos* or *Animals should not be kept in zoos*.

**Q. Where do I write the paragraph?**

A. On a sheet of notebook paper

**Q. Can I brainstorm on the same page as my paragraph?**

A. Yes, that is fine.

**Q. Can I use the Internet to help look up facts for the paragraph?**

A. Yes. Do not get off task. You are not allowed to use the Internet for any other purpose.

**Q. What do I do if I finish early?**

A. First, read over your work. Make sure your paragraph is neat and makes sense. Did you capitalize the first word of every sentence? Do you have any run-on sentences or fragments? Do you need to look up any words that you may have misspelled? Once this is complete, work on the early finish work that your teacher provides.

# What should be included in an argumentative body paragraph?

## **1<sup>st</sup> Sentence** - Thesis (main idea) Statement

- a. should be one of your major reasons/one of your claims
- b. should be clear and easy to understand

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Evidence/Reason** (Use one of the following for this sentence. Make sure it supports the main idea.)

- ☐ facts
- ☐ personal experience
- ☐ statistics
- ☐ experts

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Evidence/Reason** (Use one of the following for this sentence. Make sure it supports the main idea.)

- ☐ facts
- ☐ personal experience
- ☐ statistics
- ☐ experts

## **4<sup>th</sup> Evidence/Reason** (Use one of the following for this sentence. Make sure it supports the main idea.)

- ☐ facts
- ☐ personal experience
- ☐ statistics
- ☐ experts

## **5<sup>th</sup> Wrap-up sentence/Conclusion**

# Sample

Topic sentence ↓

Zoos protect endangered species. This is important as about 21% of the world's mammal species, about 12% of the bird species, and about 33% of all amphibian species are threatened with extinction. Cranes and cheetahs, great apes and rhinos and so many more are in trouble. Zoos are in a unique position to make a difference. For example, the San Diego Zoo just opened the Conservation and Research for Endangered Species Center. The \$22 million center gives scientists cutting-edge instruments and plenty of room to do their work. This zoo is famous for its work helping to save China's giant panda. Three panda cubs have been born at the zoo already. The San Diego Zoo now has the largest population of giant pandas outside mainland China. Without zoos, there is the likelihood that they will be all gone within our lifetime.

↖  
Wrap-up  
sentence/conclusion

**The sentences in the middle are all supporting sentences for the topic sentence. Notice that facts and examples are used, and each one supports the topic sentence.**

**Prompt 1**

**If it could be made possible, should NASA send humans to Mars to live?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 2**

**Should the school day be shortened by 90 minutes?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 3**

**Should kids receive an allowance from their parents?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 4**

**Should all Americans have the right to own firearms?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**



**Prompt 5**

**Should students be required to take standardized tests?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 6**

**Should students be allowed to “grade” their teachers?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 7**

**Should people be fined if they refuse to recycle?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 8**

**Should the voting age be lowered to thirteen**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 9**

**Should students be provided with a snack to eat in class?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 10**

**Should students as young as fourteen be allowed to hold jobs?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 11**

**Are professional athletes paid too much money?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 12**

**Should art and music classes be cut from schools?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 13**

**Should students in America attend school year-round with breaks throughout the year?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 14**

**Should students be required to wear uniforms to school?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 15**

**Are we too dependent on computers?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 16**

**Does the United States rely more on alternative energy sources rather than fossil fuels?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 17**

**Should recess continue in middle school?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 18**

**Should homework be banned from schools?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**



**Prompt 19**

**Is social media bad for people?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**

**Prompt 20**

**Should schools be allowed to sell sugary drinks and snacks to students?**

**Write a claim for this prompt.**

**Do some research to support your claim.**

**List three reasons to support your claim.**

**Write a paragraph using one of your reasons.**

**First, write a main idea using your reason. Then, support that main idea with details, facts, personal experience, or examples.**