



Learning Objective

L.O. To be able to present arguments and information from differing viewpoints.

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Structure

- **Opening statement:**
Introduce the issue and preview the main arguments.
- **Arguments for:**
Points and evidence.
- **Arguments against:**
Points and evidence.
- **Conclusion:**
Recommendation and summary.

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Features

- Discussions are in the present tense, e.g.:

Many rhinos are killed for their horns.

- Use appropriate conjunctions in discussions to make the points flow:

because

however

this shows

therefore

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Techniques

- Turn the title into a question as it gets the reader thinking, e.g.:
Should we hunt whales?
- Open the discussion by introducing the reader to the subject.
State why you are debating the issue.
- Try to see the argument from both sides.
- Give reasons and evidence for all the points you make.
Researching the topic beforehand helps with this.

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Conclusion

- Conclude with the decision that is correct for you.
- In concluding a discussion it is important to give a reason for what you have decided.
- If it is a discussion that presents a balanced viewpoint, check that you have been fair to both sides.

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Finally...

Re-read the balanced discussion you have just written.

Would you be persuaded?



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Setting out your work as shown here and using the example texts to support you, you are going to write your own balanced argument. Think about all the things we have learned this week and try to incorporate them into your writing.

Writing a Discussion

Name:

Date:

What are you going to discuss?

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Write three arguments **for** your discussion giving evidence for each one.

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Write three arguments **against** your discussion giving evidence for each one.

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What is your conclusion?

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