# Original Student Writing: Argument Essay

Brainstorming will help you get started with your argumentative essay. In this section, you will choose a topic for your essay, write your thesis statement, think about several supporting ideas for your opinion, and think about the counterargument.

**ACTIVITY**

**Planning your Essay**

Follow the steps below to develop ideas for an argument essay.

1. First, choose any other topic and thesis statement that you want to write about. Remember that the topic must have more than one point of view to qualify as an argument.

*Essay topic*:

*Thesis statement*:

1. Now brainstorm ideas about your topic. Fill out the Pro & Con T-Chart with as many ideas as you can.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PRO** | **CON** |
| 1.  2.  3.  4.  5. | 1.  2.  3.  4.  5. |

1. Look at your Pro & Con T-chart again. Choose three reasons from your “Pro” list that support your thesis most effectively and **circle** them. You now know what your major supporting information will be.

**ACTIVITY**

### Planning with an Outline

Try to complete the following outline before you begin writing your essay. You may use more support sentences if you need. And try to use complete sentences when it is possible.

1. Introduction (Paragraph 1)
   1. Hook:
   2. Connecting Information:
   3. Thesis Statement:
2. Body
   1. First Reason (Paragraph 2) topic sentence:

1.

2.

Support

3.

* 1. Second Reason (Paragraph 3) topic sentence:

1.

2.

Support

3.

* 1. Third Reason (Paragraph 4) topic sentence:

1.

2.

Support

3.

1. Conclusion (Paragraph 5)
   * + 1. Restated Thesis:
       2. Opinion/Suggestion/Prediction: