



The Cay: Argument Essay Checklist

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Introduction Paragraph (First Paragraph)

An "attention grabber" or "hook". This could be a quote, word, question, bold statement, or figurative language.

Three reasons that support your claim.

A clearly stated claim. DO NOT begin your argument with, "I am going to tell you why," or "My claim is..."

Body Paragraph #1 (Second Paragraph)

Credible evidence (quotes, explicit text evidence, data, information) that supports the claim.

Reasoning that is clear and supports the evidence.

Body Paragraph #2 (Third Paragraph)

Credible evidence (quotes, explicit text evidence, data, information) that supports the claim.

Reasoning that is clear and supports the evidence.

Body Paragraph #3 (Fourth Paragraph)

Credible evidence (quotes, explicit text evidence, data, information) that supports the claim.

Reasoning that is clear and supports the evidence.

Conclusion Paragraph (Fifth Paragraph)

A restatement of your claim.

A restatement of the 3 reasons that support your claim. Make this last paragraph clear and powerful. Do not simply repeat what you have already said.

End with a powerful, thoughtful ending. WRAP it up. Do not end your essay with phrases like, "I hope you liked my paper and agree with me," "I hope you learned something," or The End.

Check your paper for:

A variety of transitional words and phrases.

Clear vocabulary that fits the subject.

Correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, and capitalization.

Clear sentences that express your ideas well.