



A paragraph has:

1. Connectors (first, second, thus, as a result, consequently)
2. A topic sentence
3. Supporting sentences (explanation, examples)
4. Useful language (I think, I believe etc)

## How to Build an Argument

Step 1- Brainstorming

Step 2- Clustering

Step 3- A topic sentence

Step 4- Justification (explanation, examples)

An Example:

Some people claim field trips should no longer be part of the school activities, others disagree.

Do you agree or disagree with this claim? Write an essay in which you explain and give reasons for your point of view.

First, experiencing nature firsthand is a practical form of education. They get the opportunity to acquire new skills like lighting a bonfire or preparing food (examples). As a result, they enrich their knowledge and broaden their horizons.



### Exercises:

#### **Subject 1: Marrying Young**

Marrying is one of the most important events of a person's life. Some people claim people should marry young.

Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Write a composition stating and explaining your opinion.

#### **Brainstorming:**

Patience, strength, responsibility, concessions, awareness, maturity

An opportunity to see your great grandchildren

#### **Clustering:**

(-) Reason/argument 1: patience

(-) Reason/ argument 2: responsibility, concessions

(-) Reason/ argument 3: awareness, maturity

(+) Reason/ argument 1: strength

(+) Reason/ argument 2: An opportunity/privilege to see your great grandchildren.

**Topic Sentence:** If young people get married, they are more likely to be impatient.

**Justification:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you addicted to your phone ?

**OR** Some people claim there are serious long-term effects of phone addiction. Do you agree or disagree with this claim? Write a composition stating and explaining your opinion.

**Brainstorming:** physical reactions, dependency, agitations, memory loss, navigation skills, lack of social skills

**Clustering:**

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Justification:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Justification:** \_\_\_\_\_



Some people believe that humans are destroying Earth, while others argue that humans are making Earth better. What opinion do you agree with?

**+ Brainstorming:** technological developments, prolonging life, mobility, abundance-food, clothes, jobs, knowledge

**- Brainstorming:** global warming, air pollution, climate changes, scarcity in natural resources.

**Clustering:**

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Justification:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Justification:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Opinion Essay Topics for High School Students

- Should parents stop helping their children at the age of 18?  
Why or why not?
- What are your thoughts on the current drinking age ? Should it be lowered?
- Should there be limits to freedom of speech? Why or why not?
- Was the current Covid-19 outbreak handled effectively? If not, what could countries have done better?
- Is social media making us less social? Why or why not?
- Is misinformation easier to spread across the web than factual information?
- Success is measured by the amount of money you have in the bank. True or false?
- Is comprehensive education better than work experience?