

Argument Analysis worksheet

1. What is the writer's main idea, or thesis?
2. What seems to be the writer's purpose in writing this essay?
3. List the reasons the writer gives in support of his or her thesis.
4. Are these reasons convincing? Why or why not? This question refers to the logic or appeal of the reasons.
5. Give examples of the evidence the writer presents in support of his or her reasons. Explain the kind of support it seems to be, i.e. example, facts, quotes from experts, comparisons, process analysis, cause-effect, scenario.
6. How convincing is the evidence presented? Is it pertinent? Reliable? Sufficient? Is it slanted or biased?
7. Does the writer acknowledge views about the subject that are different from his or her own? Where? What is the writer's attitude toward those who hold different views? Does the writer try to understand those views or does he or she respond negatively toward them?