



ACTIVITY: WRITING A BALANCED ARGUMENT

A balanced argument looks at different points of view on an issue, providing arguments for and against. It presents a balanced set of arguments without leaning one way or the other.

When writing a balanced argument, it is important to remember that it doesn't matter whether you are for or against the issue to begin with. You must present both sides of the argument fairly and objectively.

Then in the final paragraph, after balancing both sides of the argument, you can state which side you agree with.

Once decided on a topic for your argument use the for and against planning sheet to make notes of your ideas.

A good balanced argument needs:

- An introduction giving context to the topic
- Opposing views 'for' and 'against' the topic
- Supporting evidence for your views
- A concluding paragraph that includes the writer's own opinion.

Use the checklist to help you remember these key points.

Your balanced arguments topic could be:

- Mobile phones should be banned in schools.
- School uniform makes everyone equal.
- There should be no homework.
- Social media causes more harm than good.
- The voting age in the UK should be lowered to 16.
- Watching TV has no benefits.
- Fast food companies shouldn't be allowed to advertise on TV.

Balanced Argument: For and Against Planning Sheet

For	Against

Balanced Argument: Checklist

	Opening paragraph to introduce the argument
	Opposing views for and against
	Evidence to support your arguments
	A concluding paragraph that includes the writer's opinions
	Paragraphs written in the third person except the final paragraph
	Final paragraph written in first person
	Formal language

