

Rogierian Method of Argumentation

Use this outline if you are looking at two sides of an issue and want to reach a compromise with the point of view that is opposite yours.

I. Introduction

1. State the problem you hope to resolve.
2. Explain the type of positive change you would like to see pertaining to this issue.
3. Mention how your opponents may want to solve the same problem.

II. Summary of Opposing Views

1. Topic sentence: Explain the most important reason people disagree with your point of view.
2. Write a sentence using a quote or paraphrase from one of your sources that disagrees with your point of view.
3. Write a sentence of commentary to help your reader understand this point of view.
4. Optional: Write another a sentence of commentary to help your reader understand this point of view.
5. Write a sentence using a quote or paraphrase from one of your sources that disagrees with your point of view.
6. Write a sentence of commentary to help your reader understand this point of view.
7. Optional: Write another a sentence of commentary to help your reader understand this point of view.

III. Statements of Understanding and Validity

1. Write a topic sentence using a concept word from the finals sentence of the previous paragraphs in a different way. Be sure to use a transition word at the beginning of this paragraph.
2. Write a sentence in which you explain how the opposing arguments might be valid.
3. Write 2-3 sentences of commentary in which you give in to the opposing side (show how they have some valid points).
4. Write a sentence in which you explain how under certain circumstances you might be able to share the opposing side's point of view.

IV. Statement of your position

1. Write a topic sentence in which you state your point of view.
2. Write a sentence in which you use quote or paraphrase from one of your sources, which supports your point of view.
3. Write a sentence or two of commentary.
4. Write another sentence in which you use a quote or a paraphrase, which supports your point of view.
5. Write another 2 sentences of commentary.
6. Write a concluding sentence.

- You may need to repeat this type of paragraph for the remaining reasons that support your point of view.
- This may be one or two more additional paragraphs using the above structure.
- Make sure to begin each new paragraph with a topic sentence that uses a concept word from the last sentence of the previous paragraph in a different way.

V. Statement of Context.

1. In your topic sentence, explain how your point of view is valid and has merit.
2. In a few sentences, describe the situations in which your point of view has merit, showing that you understand that people won't agree with you all the time.

VI. Statement of Benefits.

This is your conclusion. Show your opponent how they would benefit from accepting your position, and end your essay on a hopeful note.

