English 8 – Persuasive Paragraph Template

**Persuasive Paragraphs**

* These paragraphs argue or persuade to your reader that your opinion is the correct one.
* These topics are usually divided into sections of reasons for why your opinion is correct. These reasons make up the body of your paragraph

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Topic Sentence** – ONE sentence to show to your reader your paragraph topic and reveal a little about what you intend to write about it. You can preview your reasons here, but you don’t have to.

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**Body Section 1** – Introduce your first reason, explain it (if necessary), and comment on why this reason is valid or effective. Try to do this in TWO - THREE sentences.

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**Body Section 2** – Transition to your second reason, explain it (if necessary), and comment on why this reason is valid or effective. Try to do this in TWO - THREE sentences.

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**Body Section 3** - Transition to your second reason, explain it (if necessary), and comment on why this reason is valid or effective. Try to do this in TWO - THREE sentences.

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**Concluding Sentence** – In ONE or TWO sentences, try to summarize the reasons you discussed, and comment on their significance as part of the larger topic you wrote about.

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**Assessment Checklist:**

This paragraph has the following:

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| * **Topic Sentence** clearly reveals the topic to be discussed * The writing clearly **reflects** the **purpose** of the type of paragraph attempted * Body Sentences in sequential, **logical order** * **Reasons** in the body section are effective and **well explained** * **Appropriate transitions** between body sentences | * **Concluding sentence** provides a thoughtful final word on the subject * Attempts at vivid, effective, and sophisticated **vocabulary**. * Tone is **formal, or suited to the voice of the narrator** (if you aren’t writing as yourself) * Proper spelling, punctuation, and capitalization * The paragraph is approximately 8-11 sentences long. |