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 Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
 Misamis Street, Bago-Bantay, Quezon City

UNIFIED SUPPLEMENTARY LEARNING MATERIALS (USLeM)



ENGLISH THIRD GRADING – MODULE 1.1

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COMPOSE AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY EXPECTATIONS

At the end of the module, you should be able to:

- A. Define an argumentative essay
- B. Distinguish the structure of an argumentative essay

PRE-TEST

Directions: Choose the letter of the correct answer.

1. Which type of writing has differing points of view?
a. descriptive writing c. argumentative writing
b. narrative writing d. informative writing
2. What do you call your position on a debate topic?
a. Reason b. claim c. quote d. emotion
3. What is a debate topic?
a. an issue people feel strongly in favor of or opposed to
b. an issue that everybody has the same opinion of
c. an issue that no one cares about
d. an issue that cannot be debated
4. Which term means you like something strongly?
a. opposed to b. against c. in favor of d. unsure of
5. When you copy information exactly from a source, you must _____.
a. plagiarize
b. use quotation marks
c. pretend it is your own
d. omit some words
6. A thesis statement must only include the following:
a. a topic + reasons c. reasons + support + reasons
b. your opinion d. a topic + your opinion
7. What is it called when you raise possible objections to your claim?
a. counterargument c. evidence
b. argument d. rebuttal
8. What do you call a piece of information which can be proven?
a. an anecdote b. a fact c. an example d. a statistic
9. What is another name for your comeback to a counterargument, disproving a different opinion?
a. rebuttal b. counterargument c. evidence d. claim
10. What is another name for a counterargument?
a. counterbalance b. counter proposal c. counterclaim
d. counterpart

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11. Where is the best place to introduce the claim?
- at the end of the paragraph
 - in the second paragraph
 - at the end of the first paragraph
 - in the last paragraph
12. The claim is where the writer...
- shows what he/she is trying to prove
 - showcases how smart he/she is
 - will answer opposing view
 - will tear an opposing view
13. Background information helps the reader to...
- watch for an opposing view
 - divert attention from claim
 - gather more information about the topic
 - believes the writer's point of view readily
14. The refutation should come immediately after the
- introduction
 - claim
 - opposing view
 - conclusion
15. Where would you find evidence and details?
- introduction
 - conclusion
 - body paragraphs
 - thesis statement

LOOKING BACK

There are different literary genres, one of these is drama. Do you know the difference between DRAMA and PLAY? Try to do the activity below.

Directions. Identify the meaning of Drama and Play. Fill out the table by choosing your answer from the choices given. (?)

DRAMA	PLAY
1.	1.
2.	2.

Choices:

- a dramatic performance, as on-stage
- a literary composition on prose or verse
- intended to be read
- intended to be seen

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

An argumentative essay is a piece of writing that takes a stance on an issue. In a good argumentative essay, a writer attempts to persuade readers to understand and support their point of view about a topic by stating their reasoning and providing evidence to back it up. It is one of the most popular types of essays you'll write in school.

They combine persuasive arguments with fact-based research, and, when done well, can be powerful tools for making someone agree with your point of view

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Generally, argumentative essay topics are related to science, technology, politics, and health care.

How To Outline an Argumentative Essay in 4 Steps

Argumentative essays should have a straightforward structure so they are easy for readers to follow. The goal of an argumentative essay is to clearly outline a point of view, reasoning, and evidence. A good argumentative essay should follow this structure:

- 1. Introductory paragraph.**

The first paragraph of your essay should outline the topic, provide background information necessary to understand your argument, outline the evidence you will present and states your thesis.

- 2. The thesis statement.**

This is part of your first paragraph. It is a concise, one-sentence summary of your main point and claim.

- 3. Body paragraphs.**

A typical argumentative essay comprises three or more paragraphs that explain the reasons why you support your thesis. Each body paragraph should cover a different idea or piece of evidence and contain a topic sentence that clearly and concisely explains why the reader should agree with your position. Body paragraphs are where you back up your claims with examples, research, statistics, studies, and text citations. Address opposing points of view and disprove them or explain why you disagree with them. Presenting facts and considering a topic from every angle adds credibility and will help you gain a reader's trust.

- 4. Conclusion.**

One paragraph that restates your thesis and summarizes all of the arguments made in your body paragraphs. Rather than introducing new facts or more arguments, a good conclusion will appeal to a reader's emotions.

In some cases, writers will use a personal anecdote explaining how the topic personally affects them.

How to Write a Thesis Statement in 3 Steps

Your thesis statement is only one sentence long, but it's the most important part of your argumentative essay. The thesis appears in your introductory paragraph, summarizes what your argumentative essay will be about, and primes the reader for what's to come. These steps will help you get your point across clearly and concisely:

- 1. Turn the topic into a question and answer it.** Set up a big question in the title of your essay or within the first few sentences. Then, build up to answering that question in your thesis statement.

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For example, in your title or introduction, you could pose the question, “What is the best type of sandwich?” And then answer with your thesis statement: “The best type of sandwich is peanut butter and jelly.”

This method is effective because intriguing questions draw readers in and encourage them to keep reading to find the answer.

2. **State an argument—and then refute it.** Introduce an idea that contrasts with your belief, and immediately explain why you disagree with it.

For example: “While some people believe peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are too simple, they’re versatile sandwiches that you can easily turn into a gourmet meal.”

This method is effective because it uses evidence and immediately demonstrates your credibility.

3. **Briefly outline your main points.** Introduce your main point and explain how you’ll back it up.

For example: “You can turn a peanut butter and jelly sandwich into a gourmet meal by using artisanal bread, toasting the bread, and adding additional toppings.”

This method is effective because it gives readers a clear idea of everything you’ll discuss in your essay. It also serves as a roadmap to help keep you organized and on track.

AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY OUTLINE EXAMPLE

Should prostitution be made legal?

1. Introduction: Mention the official statistical data of prostitution rates in the United States. Explain why women choose to sell their bodies, and men opt to pay for having sex. Thesis statement: Show that legalization of prostitution can harm the society in many ways, and thus, should not be legalized.
2. Argument #1: Prostitution helps spread the AIDS and other diseases. Use official sources to support this idea. Summarize that for this reason it should not be made legal.
3. Argument #2: Prostitution destroys moral values and belittles the role of a woman. Paint a picture of how an average woman in this “business” views herself and what self-image she passes on to the next generation. Summarize that this “occupation” is detrimental to healthy values and self-image and can impact the society in the future.
4. Argument #3: Prostitution legalized does not mean decreased sex slavery across the states. Show the example of Germany that legalized this occupation but still cannot prevent human trafficking and girls being sold into slavery. Summary: making it legal does not help prevent trafficking and sex slavery
5. Conclusion: Prostitution is not a profession; it is a way to humiliate women, break their human rights, and spread diseases. It is degrading. Thus, it should not be legalized and, on the contrary, should be by all means prevented.

When you write an argument, you are trying to convince your reader that your opinion is correct. A strong argument has five key parts.

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Claim	A statement of opinion. This is the topic of your argument.
Evidence	Proof or facts that support your claim.
Counter-Argument	An argument that your reader would make if they disagreed with your claim.
Rebuttal	Your response to the counter-argument.
Conclusion	A strong restatement of the original claim.

ACTIVITIES

Activity 1. Read the essay below then identify the key parts of strong arguments used in the essay. Use the table below to show your answer.

Hey Kenny! We should play basketball instead of baseball after school today. Basketball is better because we can play no matter how many people show up. If we're the only ones playing, we can play one-on-one or we can play "Horse." When we play baseball, we need at least six people to play with us. A lot of people, like Jake and Penelope, think that baseball is more fun because they like hitting the ball over the fence and stealing bases. But the truth is that we always end up having more fun when we play basketball because we don't have to wait for people to go get the ball from the street. So, let's meet at the basketball courts at 4:00 pm.

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KEY PARTS	SENTENCE
Claim	
Evidence	
Counter-argument	
Rebuttal	
Conclusion	

REMEMBER

Fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below.

An (a) _____ tries to change the (b) _____ by convincing the reader to (c) _____ with the writer's point of view.

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CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Activity 1. Read the essay then answer the questions.

Why I Hate Facebook



The use of social networking sites, in particular Facebook, can not only skew your understanding of reality, it can cause you actual, physical harm. According to Jean Conklin, a clinical psychiatrist at University of Maryland Hospital, in Baltimore, "Facebook is to your mind what sugar is to your body – bad all around."

The main reason we all ought to stop looking at Facebook is because it makes us think that the people in our lives (or virtually in our lives, anyway) are happier, more fulfilled and more successful than they probably are; which makes us feel more depressed, frustrated and unfulfilled than we probably are. Why? Think about it. How quickly do people post good news to Facebook? Exotic vacations; engagements, anniversary parties, raises, promotions. . . when was the last time you read that the devastatingly handsome new boyfriend of your college roommate is actually a recovering alcoholic, or that the new six-figure job that your old friend got two months ago didn't last two weeks because it turns out she didn't have the people skills required to make it work? "Thinking that everyone else is doing better in life than you are isn't motivating," says Clint White, career counselor with My New Job, Inc. "It's depressing, and can be debilitating for some people, who think there's something wrong with them because they have problems in their life that no one else seems to have." Mr. White cited fifty-four clients in the past year alone whom he has seen who were seeking a career change for no reason other than that they didn't believe that they measuring up to their Facebook peers.

As if the psychological problems weren't enough, Facebook triggers a stress response in the body, even if you don't think or realized that you are stressed out. Studies have shown that reading new information on Facebook triggers the release of glucocorticoid (cortisol), your body's stress hormone. This messes with your immune system, and prevents the release of growth hormones, and all these things keep your body in a state of chronic stress. If you have digestive problems; if your hair or nails grow very slowly and it takes forever for cuts and scrapes to heal; if you feel irritable and nervous, or are susceptible to every virus and bacteria that cruises through town, you may not need a trip to the doctor—you many just need to delete your Facebook page.

People survived for hundreds of years in an industrial society without the necessity of blasting out every intimate detail of their lives to everyone with whom they've ever crossed paths, or with whom that person has ever crossed paths. . . a real relationship encompasses the good and the bad, and includes genuine human to human interaction. So shut down the computer. Go out to lunch with a friend. Call your mother. Take your kid to the zoo. And for goodness sake, don't post anything on Facebook about it when you get back!

Questions.

1. What is the author's claim? _____ -

2. List the reasons and evidence the author offers to support her claim.
REASON #1: _____
EVIDENCE: _____
REASON #2: _____
EVIDENCE: _____

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3. Which of the following does the author use to support her claim?
- A. The author mentions research.
 - B. The author appeals to the reader's emotions.
 - C. The author uses the bandwagon technique (everyone else believes this so you should too).
 - D. The author's tone makes her seem believable and trustworthy.
 - E. The author quotes experts.
 - F. The author includes credible data.
 - G. The author includes real world examples.

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POST-TEST

Directions: Choose the letter of the correct answer.

1. Which type of writing has differing points of view?
 - a. descriptive writing
 - b. narrative writing
 - c. argumentative writing
 - d. informative writing
2. What do you call your position on a debate topic?
 - a. reason
 - b. claim
 - c. quote
 - d. emotion
3. What is a debate topic?
 - a. an issue people feel strongly in favor of or opposed to
 - b. an issue that everybody has the same opinion of
 - c. an issue that no one cares about
 - d. an issue that cannot be debated
4. Which term means you like something strongly?
 - a. opposed to
 - b. against
 - c. in favor of
 - d. unsure of
5. When you copy information exactly from a source, you must _____.
 - a. plagiarize
 - b. use quotation marks to show it is not your own work
 - c. pretend it is your own work
 - d. not use every word
6. A thesis statement must only include the following:
 - a. a topic + reasons
 - b. your opinion + reasons
 - c. reasons + support
 - d. a topic + your opinion
7. What is it called when you raise possible objections to your claim?
 - a. counterargument
 - b. argument
 - c. evidence
 - d. rebuttal
8. What do you call a piece of information which can be proven?
 - a. an anecdote
 - b. a fact
 - c. an example
 - d. a statistic
9. What is another name for your comeback to a counterargument, disproving a different opinion?
 - a. rebuttal
 - b. counterargument
 - c. evidence
 - d. claim
10. What is another name for a counterargument?
 - a. countertop
 - b. counterclockwise
 - c. counterclaim
 - d. counterpart

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11. Where is the best place to introduce the claim?
- at the end of the paragraph
 - in the second paragraph
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 - in the last paragraph
12. The claim is where the writer...
- shows what he/she is trying to prove
 - show how smart he/she is
 - will answer opposing view
 - will tear an opposing view
13. Background information helps the reader to...
- watch for an opposing view
 - easily believes on the writer's point of view
 - be distracted about the claim
 - have more information about the topic
14. The refutation should come immediately after the
- introduction
 - claim
 - opposing view
 - conclusion
15. Where would you find evidence and details?
- introduction
 - conclusion
 - body paragraphs
 - thesis statement

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ANSWER KEY

5. B	10. C	15. C
4. C	9. A	14. C
3. A	8. B	13. C
2. B	7. A	12. A
1. C	6. D	11. C
PRE-TEST:		

DRAMA - 1. B	2. C
PLAY - 1. A	2. D
LOOKING BACK:	

ACTIVITY 1.	
1. The use of social networking sites, in particular Facebook, can not only skew your understanding of reality, it can cause you actual, physical harm.	
2. REASON #1: The main reason we all ought to stop looking at Facebook is because it makes us think that the people in our lives (or virtually in our lives, anyway) are happier, more fulfilled and more successful than they probably are; which makes us feel more depressed, frustrated and unfulfilled than we probably are.	
EVIDENCE "Thinking that everyone else is doing better in life than you are isn't motivating," says Clint White, career counselor with My New Job, Inc. "	
REASON #2 Facebook triggers a stress response in the body, even if you don't think or realized that you are stressed out.	
EVIDENCE Studies have shown that reading new information on Facebook triggers the release of glucocorticoid (cortisol), your body's stress hormone. This messes with your immune system, and prevents the release of growth hormones, and all these things keep your body in a state of chronic stress.	
3. Which of the following does the author use to support her claim?	
A. The author mentions research.	
D. The author's tone makes her seem believable and trustworthy.	
E. The author quotes experts.	G. The author includes real world examples

REMEMBER:	
A. Argumentative essay	
B. reader's mind	
C. agree	
KEY PARTS	
SENTENCE	
Claim	We should play basketball instead of baseball after school today.
Evidence	Basketball is better because we can play no matter how many people show up.
Counter-argument	A lot of people, like Jake and Penelope, think that baseball is more fun because they like hitting the ball over the fence and stealing bases.
Rebuttal	A lot of people, like Jake and Penelope, think that baseball is more fun because they like hitting the ball over the fence and stealing bases.
Conclusion	because we don't have to wait for people to go get the ball from the street.

5. C	10. C	15. C
4. A	9. A	14. C
3. C	8. D	13. A
2. C	7. B	12. C
1. B	6. A	11. C
POST TEST		

ACTIVITY 2.
