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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 1.2

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COMPOSE AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

EXPECTATIONS

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

- A. Analyze the structure of an argumentative essay
- B. Write a three paragraph argumentative essay

PRE-TEST

Directions: Choose the letter of the correct answer.

1. What is an argument?
 - A. A claim that has logic and facts.
 - B. A claim that has feelings in it.
 - C. A claim that tells a story.
 - D. A claim that involves an emotion in narrating.
2. What is a hook, or lead?
 - A. The sentence that is the main idea of an essay.
 - B. The sentence that ends the paper.
 - C. A sentence that gets the reader's attention
 - D. A sentence that summarizes the whole idea
3. Essay has three parts. Which choice contains all of them?
 - A. Thesis, Lead, Hook.
 - B. Introduction, Body, Conclusion.
 - C. Claim, Counterclaim, Rebuttal.
 - D. Introduction, Lead, Rebuttal.
4. There are three parts to an argumentative essay. What are they?
 - A. Introduction, Body, Conclusion.
 - B. Lead, Thesis, Conclusion.
 - C. Claim, Counterclaim, Rebuttal.
 - D. Introduction, Lead, Rebuttal.
5. In which paragraph does the thesis go?
 - A. Body
 - B. Introduction
 - C. Conclusion
 - D. All of the above
6. Your thesis statement must include the points you'll discuss. At least how many should you have in your essay?
 - A. Three
 - B. One
 - C. Four
 - D. Six
7. Which of the following choices are hooks used in an essay?
 - A. Sentence, Viewpoint
 - B. Thesis, Hook
 - C. Question, Quote
 - D. Conclusion
8. Which of the following is not a form of evidence?
 - A. Quote from an expert
 - B. government definitions
 - C. statistic
 - D. your dad's opinion
9. What is a hook in writing?
 - A. The main idea of the body
 - B. The closing sentence of your conclusion
 - C. The best piece of evidence in your paper
 - D. How you engage your reader in the beginning

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10. What should you do after presenting text evidence?
- A. Move on to another reason
 - B. Transition to a new paragraph
 - C. Explain how that evidence proves your thesis statement
 - D. Summarize that evidence
11. Which source would be the most credible?
- A. A quote from Wikipedia
 - B. An article from a news journal
 - C. A statement from your neighbor
 - D. A quote from a popular blog with over a million followers
12. What TYPE of sentence is NOT in a body paragraph?
- A. Reason
 - B. Evidence
 - C. Commentary
 - D. Introduction
13. You can change the order of your evidence and commentary sentences if you need to.
- True
 - B. False
 - C. Maybe
 - D. None of the above
14. The following statements must be considered in your conclusion paragraph except _____
- A. Summarize your reasons
 - B. End with a strong statement that shows you are correct
 - C. Restate your claim
 - D. End with "This is the end of my essay."
15. Concluding an argumentative essay may require the faculty of a genius reasoning from the author on the topic discussed.
- A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Maybe
 - D. None of the above

LOOKING BACK

Directions. Arrange the steps in outlining a paragraph chronologically.
Number the items 1-4.

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| _____ | A. Conclusion |
| _____ | B. Body paragraphs |
| _____ | C. The Thesis statements |
| _____ | D. Introductory paragraph. |

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

The argumentative essay is a genre of writing that requires the student to investigate a topic; collect, generate, and evaluate evidence; and establish a position on the topic in a concise manner.

The purpose of an argumentative essay is to convince the reader that your viewpoint is true or correct. In writing an argumentative essay, you have to appeal to the mind of the readers using only facts and logic.

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In your quarter 3 – Module 2: Lesson 1, the steps on How to Outline an Argumentative Essay was given. Below are the tips on how to write an argumentative essay.

1. **Do your research:** Go look for research that supports your argument. Take notes, so you can easily reference the best pieces of research when you're writing.
2. **Create an outline:** Plan out your essay. Write your main points, and the points that you're planning to debunk.
3. **Start writing:** Start wherever is easiest, as the order won't matter. Try writing your introduction last.
4. **Edit and proofread:** Check your essay before you hand it in, to edit out any easily overlooked mistakes.

Knowing the **basics** is not enough to write an incredible article. So, let's look at an argumentative essay example that will illustrate how you will apply this knowledge to action.

SAMPLE ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

INTRODUCTION

HOOK: interesting sentence that grabs the reader's attention.

Last month, my father was rushed to the hospital with a heart attack at 9am.

Everybody was worried that he wasn't going to live. They took him to Memorial Hospital, where he had several more heart attacks. My mom tried to call the school all morning to get in touch with me, but the phones were busy every time she tried.

I was in biology dissecting frogs while my father was dying.

Background Information: who, what, when, how, where, etc

THESIS: what you want your audience to do or believe. This is what the entire essay will be about. The MOST important part of your essay!!!

Why?

Supporting Point #1

Evidence

Because ...

Safety is the major concern of parents who want their children to be able to contact them quickly and easily should they find themselves in a perilous situation. As Julian Sanchez points out in his article *Safety is a Major Concern*, "At other times, parents need to contact children because of a change of plans. This happens particularly in families where both parents work, or where the parents have separated." This shows how sometimes parents need to get in touch with children to let them know that they have to go somewhere else after school.

How evidence is persuasive

Supporting Point #2

Evidence

Because...

There are many situations, particularly here in California, where children might be potentially in danger and could use the phone to get help. For example, Jason Lee says that "If we had an earthquake or a lockdown, it would be important to contact someone beyond the school without having to go to the office. Or imagine the worse case scenario, a hostage situation, a terrorist situation, or another Columbine. In New York on 9/11, victims were able to communicate with families for the last time on their cell phones. What if they had kept to the rules and observed the ban on cell phone use on planes? We would never have known what happened on the flight.

How evidence is persuasive

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Because...

Supporting Point #3 → Everyone carries a cell phone these days with him or her. Kids will still bring their phones regardless of the ban. Joel Murano, a California high school principal estimates that, “70 percent of the kids in his school had phones.”

Evidence → I believe cell phones are necessary for students and think administrators should allow them under certain rules. For example, they should be off during class time and only be used at lunch and after school. Students' phones should be confiscated if they are used during class.

Counter-argument: Statement against your thesis to show understand reasons to oppose it → I know that there are good reasons for the cell phone ban, such as students using them to cheat on tests. Another reason is that they can be used to organize illegal activities such as fights, or truancy.

How evidence is persuasive → But, cheating, fighting and truancy have been going on for much longer than students have had cell phones. Kids will always find a way to communicate about these things.

Rebuttal: this is how you make your point again and make the thesis stronger → My father is back at home now but he won't be back at work for several more months. Since parents are so concerned about our safety, California is an active earthquake state, and almost everyone has a cell phone these days, I can't imagine how I would feel if he had died and I wasn't at the hospital with my family. Having a cell phone means that I can be contacted in an emergency such as this. I understand, as do my friends, that this is a privilege that can be taken away and we won't abuse it. But the school system must trust us—otherwise how can we keep ourselves safe?

CONCLUSION → **SO WHAT?** → Why is your essay important to readers? Why should do/believe what your thesis says?

Restate your thesis and supporting points in other words

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ACTIVITIES

Directions. Fill out the argumentative essay outline by choosing the correct notes from the given choices inside the box.

don't think about the possible consequences of their actions

Distracted driving

don't have enough self-discipline

irresponsible

Families are broken

life-destroying

inexperienced

driving is much more important than texting

texting, talking on the phone, looking at maps can result in serious accidents

young people feel too comfortable and safe

I encourage everyone not to use electronic devices while driving. Help keep our society safe.

Have you ever noticed someone in front of you driving strangely?

In a world of mobile technology, distracted driving is a bigger problem than in the past.

there should be more education about distracted driving

Cade Reynolds was 16 when killed by a distracted driver.

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Topic

1. Introduction _____
 - A. Attention Getter - _____
 - B. Thesis - _____
 - C. Supporting sentences - _____
2. Point 1 - _____
 - A. Supporting idea - _____
 - B. Supporting idea - _____
3. Point 2 - _____
 - A. Supporting idea - _____
 - B. Supporting idea - _____
3. Point 3 - _____
 - A. Supporting idea - _____
 - B. Supporting idea - _____
4. Conclusion _____
 - A. Summing up - _____
 - B. Final opinion - _____

REMEMBER

Fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below.

The purpose of an argumentative essay is to (a) _____ the reader that your (b) _____ is true or correct. In writing an argumentative essay, you have to use only (c) _____ and (d) _____.

CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Directions: Now, it's time to write your own argumentative essay by following the suggested outline below. Choose from the topics given. Your output will be scored based on the rubrics below. (24 points)

- ❖ *Can humanity get rid of the internet and continue developing?*
- ❖ *Should content on the Internet be more restricted?*
- ❖ *Does a constant social media connection make people feel lonelier and stressed?*

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❖ *What is the impact of technology on people's ability to create?*

General Topic: _____

I. Introduction

II. Body

III. Conclusion

Designed by Catlin Tucker

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[Blended Learning in Grades 4-12](#)

Middle School Argumentative Writing Rubric

Element	Needs Improvement 1	Fair 2	Strong 3	Excellent 4
Clear Claim with Reasons	Claim is unclear. No clear reasons are given.	Claim is clear, but the reasons are unclear, absent, or incomplete.	Claim and reasons are clearly stated	Claim is clearly stated and the reasons are strong.
Evidence	Central claim is not supported. No evidence provided.	Attempts to support the central claim and reasons with facts, but information is unclear, inaccurate, or lacks citations.	Supports the central claim and reasons with facts, necessary details, and citations.	Supports the central claim and reasons with strong facts, thorough details, and accurate citations.
Explanation	Contains little to no explanation or analysis of the information presented.	Attempts to explain and analyze the information, but the explanation is unclear or inaccurate.	Clearly explains and analyzes most of the information presented.	Clearly, concisely, and thoroughly explains and analyzes the information presented.
Conclusion	Abrupt or absent ending. No concluding statement.	Ends with a concluding statement that does not clearly relate to the central claim.	Ends with a concluding statement about the central claim.	Ends with a strong or compelling concluding statement that clearly relates to the central claim.
Formal Tone and Style	Informal language present throughout.	Writing contains some informal elements (e.g., contractions).	Writing attempts to maintain a formal and objective tone.	Writing maintains a formal and objective tone throughout.
Organization & Transitions	Little to no attempt at organization.	Attempts to organize ideas, but transitional language is needed.	Organizes ideas in a logical way. Transitional language used.	Strong organization and transitional language used skillfully throughout.
Mechanics (Spelling & Grammar)	Distracting mechanical errors throughout.	Mechanical errors distract at times.	A few errors present, but they do not distract.	Mechanics reflect careful editing.

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POST-TEST

Directions: Choose the letter of the correct answer.

1. There are three parts to an essay. Which choice contains all of them?
A. Thesis, Lead, Hook. C. Claim, Counterclaim, Rebuttal.
B. Introduction, Body, Conclusion. D. Introduction, Lead, Rebuttal.
2. You can change the order of your evidence and commentary sentences if you need to.
A. True B. False C. Maybe D. None of the above
3. In which paragraph does the thesis go?
A. Body B. Introduction C. Conclusion. D. All of the above
4. What is an argument?
A. A claim that has logic and facts.
B. A claim that has feelings in it.
C. A claim that tells a story.
D. A claim that involves an emotion in narrating.
5. Your thesis statement must include the points you'll discuss. At least how many should you have in your essay?
A. Three B. One C. Four D. Six
6. Which of the following is not a form of evidence?
A. Quote from an expert C. a statistic
B. government definitions D. your dad's opinion
7. You can change the order of your evidence and commentary sentences if you need to.
A. True B. False C. Maybe D. None of the above
8. What should you do after presenting text evidence?
A. Move on to another reason
B. Transition to a new paragraph
C. Explain how that evidence proves your thesis statement
D. Summarize that evidence
9. What is a hook in writing?
A. Captain of a pirate ship
B. The closing sentence of your conclusion
C. The best piece of evidence in your paper
D. How you engage your reader in the beginning
10. Which source would be the most credible?
A. A quote from Wikipedia
B. An article from a news journal
C. A statement from your neighbor
D. A quote from a popular blog with over a million followers
11. What is a hook, or lead?
A. The sentence that is the main idea of an essay.
B. The sentence that ends the paper.
C. A sentence that gets the reader's attention
D. A sentence that summarizes the whole idea
12. What TYPE of sentence is NOT in a body paragraph?
A. Reason B. Evidence C. Commentary D. Introduction

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13. Which of the following choices are hooks used in an essay?
- A. Sentence, Viewpoint. C. Question, Quote.
B. Thesis, Hook. D. Conclusion
14. The following statements must be considered in your conclusion paragraph except _____
- A. Summarize your reasons
B. End with a strong statement that shows you are correct
C. Restate your claim
D. End with "This is the end of my essay."
15. There are three parts to an argumentative essay. What are they?
- A. Introduction, Body, Conclusion. C. Claim, Counterclaim, Rebuttal.
B. Lead, Thesis, Conclusion. D. Introduction, Lead, Rebuttal

REFERENCES

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ANSWER KEY

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

PRE-TEST:

4	A. Conclusion
3	B. Body paragraphs
2	C. The Thesis statements
1	D. Introductory paragraph.

LOOKING BACK:

A. convince
B. viewpoint
C. facts
D. logic

REMEMBER:

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

POST TEST

Topic: Distracted Driving

1. Introduction

A. Attention Getter - Have you ever noticed someone in front of you driving strangely?

B. Thesis - there should be more education about distracted driving

C. Supporting sentences - texting, talking on the phone, looking at maps can result in serious accidents

2. Point 1 - irresponsible

A. Supporting idea - driving is much more important than texting

B. Supporting idea - don't have enough self-discipline

3. Point 2 - inexperienced

A. Supporting idea - young people feel too comfortable and safe

B. Supporting idea - don't think about the possible consequences of their actions

3. Point 3 - life-destroying

A. Supporting idea - Cade Reynolds was 16 when killed by a distracted driver.

B. Supporting idea - Families are broken.

4. Conclusion

A. Summing up - In a world of mobile technology, distracted driving is a bigger problem than in the past.

B. Final opinion - I encourage everyone not to use electronic devices while driving. Help keep our society safe.

ACTIVITY