

Writing a Balanced Argument

What is a balanced argument?

A balanced argument provides information on different points of view and does not lean towards one particular opinion. It allows the reader to make up their own mind.

Use the following structure to help you write a balanced argument on one of these topics:

- Should school uniform be compulsory in schools?
- Should capital and corporal punishment be made legal?
- Are zoos ethical?

Begin your argument by stating the topic or issue.

This argument is to discuss..

State your first argument for and give evidence to back it up.

The first point I would like to make is...

State your second argument for and give evidence.

Secondly...

State your first argument against and give evidence.

However...

State your second argument against and give evidence.

In support of this...

Weigh up the evidence and conclude your argument.

In conclusion, I feel that...

Use the following words and phrases to help you link paragraphs and structure your writing:

however for example to summarise therefore moreover overall firstly also
hence furthermore consequently additionally except secondly alternatively finally
although by comparison in comparison likewise in conclusion lastly

Remember to:

- Write in a formal style.
- Use paragraphs and punctuate clearly.
- Make your point, provide evidence and explain.