

PE 1-2 Week Makeup Assignment: For credit in PE while you away, please complete a 4 or 5 paragraph essay following the directions below.

Argument Essay

**Locate and read an article or story pertaining to one of the health, exercise, fitness, or physical activity topics below from an online source, magazine, newspaper, or book.

Topic Choices:

- **What is the best way to maintain your bodyweight: Diet, exercise or both diet and exercise?**
- **Should students be required to take PE class?**
- **Participation in which sport is the best for your health?**

Step 1: Research and form an opinion on the topic you selected.

- Read at least two articles on the topic and form your opinion on the issue.
- Write your opinion as a sentence.
- This sentence will become your guiding sentence (thesis) for your paper.

Sample Topic: Topic: Should animals be used for scientific and medical research?

Your Opinion: Animals should be used for scientific and medical research.

Step 2: Brainstorm reasons that support your opinion (the thesis).

- a. Choose the best 2-3 reasons.
- b. Write each of these reasons as a topic sentence (each topic sentence will start a new paragraph in your essay) by stating your opinion and one reason for your opinion.
Do this step for each topic sentence.

Sample Thesis: Animals should be used for scientific and medical research.

Sample Reasons:

1. It leads to cures for deadly diseases.
2. It determines product safety of medicines for human and animal use.
3. It has saved and will continue to save human lives.

Sample Topic Sentence #1: One reason why using animals for medical and scientific research is a good idea is it leads to cures for deadly diseases.

Step 3 Write down each topic sentence.

- a. Brainstorm supporting ideas for each topic sentence
- b. Be sure to include specific examples, facts, and details for each supporting idea.

Step 4 Write your 4-5-paragraph essay by using the ideas from your brainstorming activity as your guide.

Organization of an Argument Essay

I. Introduction: Introduce the topic by giving background information that briefly explains the topic so that the reader will understand the topic to be argued. (3-4 sentences) § Then add the guiding sentence (thesis statement) that clearly and strongly states your opinion concerning the topic.

II. Body Paragraphs

- Each body paragraph gives one reason that supports the opinion stated in the thesis.
- The body paragraphs should be ordered so that the strongest is last.
- Use transition signals to introduce the opinion and reason in the topic sentence such as:
[Your opinion] The first reason why we should use animals for medical and scientific research is [First reason to support your opinion] because it leads to cures for deadly diseases.

III. Conclusion

- Use a transition signal for the conclusion such as: in conclusion, to conclude, etc.
- Restate the thesis in different words than you used in your introduction.
- Summarize your main points.
- End with final comment on the topic or a suggestion.

My two sources:

1. _____

2. _____

My Topic:

Thesis (opinion/guiding sentence):

Topic Sentence for Paragraph 1:

Topic Sentence for Paragraph 2:

Topic Sentence for Paragraph 3:

Conclusion-Restated Thesis: In conclusion, _____

Now use these starting sentences for each paragraph to write your essay.