

Formal Essay Guidelines – Argument Essay

Prompts for Argument Essay

Please select one of the following prompts for your argument essay. **You should respond directly to the question highlighted in bold text, taking a position either for or against the issue, and then supporting your position with at least three specific reasons and/or examples** (as indicated in the prompts below).

1. The Centers for Disease Control recommends getting 28 doses of 10 vaccines for children ages 0-6. No US federal laws mandate vaccination, but all 50 states require certain vaccinations for children entering public schools. Proponents say that vaccination is safe and one of the greatest health developments of the 20th century. They point out that illnesses, including rubella, diphtheria, smallpox, polio, and whooping cough, are now prevented by vaccination and millions of children's lives are saved. They claim that adverse reactions to vaccines are extremely rare.

Vaccination opponents argue that children's immune systems can deal with most infections naturally and that injecting questionable vaccine ingredients into a child may cause side effects, including seizures, paralysis, and death. They contend that numerous studies prove that vaccines may trigger conditions like autism, ADHD, and diabetes. **Should vaccines be mandatory for school attendance?** Share your position on this issue and include at least three specific reasons and/or examples to support your views.

2. Because U.S. prisons and jails are over-crowded and costs are rising, the judicial system has increased the number of sentences and paroles that utilize "house" arrests/ankle bracelets. **Is house arrest a legitimate punishment for a crime?** Share your opinion on this issue and include at least three specific reasons and/or examples that support your position.
3. The Center for Disease Control reports over the past 20 years, there has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the US. More than one-third of U.S. adults (35.7%) and nearly 17% of children and adolescents are obese. Obesity-related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and certain types of cancer. **Why are so many Americans overweight? What can be done to reverse this trend?** Share your position on this issue and include at least three specific reasons and/or examples to support of your position.
4. **Has modern technology made life better or worse?** Share your position on this issue and include at least three specific reasons and/or examples to support of your position.
5. A workplace wellness program is a health promotion activity or organization-wide policy designed to support healthy behavior and reduce health insurance costs. Many companies offer benefits and monetary awards to employees who participate in weight-loss, exercise, and nutrition programs. Some companies offer decreased insurance premiums for employees who engage in and take steps to improve healthy lifestyle choices (such as participation in biometric screenings, smoking cessation