

Criteria for a Persuasive Essay

(GRADE 8)

Content

50%

- Title: introduces the topic
- Lead: includes your position in a thesis statement
- Know your audience
- Arguments for: three well-developed points
- Arguments against: address 2 to 3 and make these work for your position
- Point of view: third person
- Ending: add something new for reader to think about

Style (craft and technique)

25%

- Leads and endings: for persuasive essays
- Transitions from paragraph to paragraph

Writing Conventions

25%

- Paragraphing: for essays
- Vary sentence openings
- Repair run-on sentences