

AP Language and Composition
Sourced Argument Paper

For this paper of five to eight pages, AP students are required to use ten credible sources, at least five of which are scholarly.

As you look to write this paper, consider the main stasis or stases in which you plan to write.

Remember:

- Use MLA 9 (heading, margin, font, page numbers, etc.) for your paper format.
- Have a title that reflects the emphases of your argument and orients the reader.

Intro

- Feel free to begin with a personal story that establishes the exigence of your topic and argument.
- Put above your thesis any element that is meant to be background.
- Place your thesis no later than the bottom of the first page; you may have two paragraphs for the intro if you really need them.

Body

- Everything below your thesis supports your thesis.
- The body of your paper should be balanced and follow the proportions apparent from your thesis.
- Topic sentences should introduce the topic of the paragraph and establish the relationship of the paragraph to the argument as a whole.
- Cite anytime you summarize, paraphrase, or quote directly.
- Blend all quotations using signal phrases.
- When you choose to introduce sources with the author's name, for that first reference use a quick credential and the author's full name.
- Cite using MLA in-text citations; remember the purpose of the citation is to get the reader to the correct entry on the works cited page.
- See Graff for the list of transitions; remember the three ways of effecting transition.
- See "No Big Deal" example for excellent transitions.
- If you are in the stases of cause/consequence and action, be sure the proportions reflect what your thesis has suggested.

Conclusion

- Summarize your argument, not your evidence.
- Discuss the implications of your argument.
- Be sure to remind the reader of the exigence of the issue.

Works Cited page

- Begin on a new page but is in the same document.
- Follow MLA 9.
- Begin each entry with the word that's used in the parenthetical citation.

Works Consulted page

- The purpose of this page is to give credit to sources that have influenced your thinking but aren't actually cited.
- Not everyone will have a works consulted page.

For your hot seat meeting

- Be sure to have a full draft as well as the works cited page.
- Write as well as you can, on the sentence level, as you don't want to waste time correcting grammar. Go through the Unlucky 13 errors before you come to the hot seat.

Before the meeting, you should gloss your paragraphs quickly in the margins.

You should bring your paper in hard copy (paper) so that I can mark it to help you; have printed your paper before your meeting time begins.

Be on time.

Be considerate in signing up and canceling.

Plan ahead; as we get closer to the deadline, there will be more people competing for spots; there can't be extensions because you waited too late to sign up and there are no more spots.

Because this is a longer paper, please allot 20 minutes for your meeting.

To hand in your paper

- Be prepared with the dates of your hot seat meetings.
- Include the final version on top.
- Put earlier, marked versions underneath.

You may hand in your final version on Jupiter but your drafts and hot-seat record on paper in class.

Label everything clearly.