

Discussion

Purpose: To present arguments and information from differing viewpoints

Structure: Opening statement - introduce the issue and preview the main arguments
Arguments for - points and evidence
Arguments against - points and evidence
Conclusion - recommendation and summary

Features: Present tense
Connectives (logical not time) - *because, however, this shows, therefore, etc.*

Writer's Knowledge:

- You can turn the title into a question, eg *Should we hunt whales?*
- Open by introducing the reader to the discussion - you may need to add why you are debating the issue
- Try to see the argument from both sides
- Support your views with reasons and evidence
- In conclusion you must give a reason for what you decide
- If you are trying to present a balanced viewpoint, check you have been fair to both sides

Finally, re-read and decide whether or not you would be persuaded