



ARGUMENTATIVE TEXTS

Argumentation is the process of supporting or weakening another statement whose validity is in question.

1.- What is the usual order of presenting an argument?

- **Introduction:** The topic is presented by making a general remark about the topic. At this point, opinions shouldn't be provided:

Race prejudice is said to be the main cause of violence in big cities".

- **Explanation of the argumentation presented.**

" There are two different approaches to / views on this issue: the one arguing that racial prejudice is the source of violent acts, and therefore violence would hardly exist if these prejudices were eradicated, and that one claiming that there 're no prejudices but the conviction that people who belong to other races are the real cause of violence on the streets".

- **Proofs supporting the argument** (as a matter of fact; . Furthermore; what is more),

"..... as a matter of fact, those places where there 's no existence of immigrants "are clearly more peaceful and quiet; furthermore, no one wants, for instance, gipsy settlements near their neighbourhood. ".....

- **Refutation** (even though..; far from what is generally believed; it cannot be forgotten ; we should avoid simplification as there are a lot of other things to be considered).

" ... far from what it's generally believed violence in big cities existed long before the immigration or race phenomenon; besides, minorities are usually the "escape-goat" of the ruling elites in order to hide their own failure as these minorities are defenceless, won't rebel and are completely subdued"

- **Conclusion** (in brief; in short, In conclusion, to conclude; to summarise)

" In short, the problem of race prejudice does not have a very clear basis but the truth is that those being victims of this prejudice will not have the chance to de/end themselves as there are many things they 're deprived of, including the mass media".

2.- Other patterns:

- **Zig- Zag** (giving pros and cons).

- **One-sided argument** (with no counterargument)

- **Eclectic approach** (the author selects the most important views on the subjects).

- **Opposition's argument first.**

- **The "other side questioned" pattern .**

3.- What must we know to produce argumentation?

Different ways (by means of connectors and expressions) to show :

- Reason, cause and purpose,

- Adding information and giving examples.

- Sequence or listing arguments or points,

- Personal opinion.

- Contrast and comparison.

- Conclusion.

- Rephrasing.

LINGUISTIC FUNCTIONS:

<p>1.- <u>Listing points</u> (enumerar)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First/ Firstly/First of all. - Second/ Secondly -Third/thirdly - Finally/ Lastly/ last but not least. <p>2.- <u>Giving examples</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For example - For instance - such as (como, tales como) <p>3.- <u>Giving personal opinions</u></p> <p>3. -I agree with (something or somebody)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -I agree that..... -I agree strongly <p>up to a point / to a certain extent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -I disagree = I don't agree - To my mind / In my opinion / In my view - From my point of view. <p>4.- <u>Making generalizations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In general - Broadly speaking=Roughly speaking - Basically <p>5.- <u>Expressing contrasts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -But - However=Nevertheless (sin embargo) -Whereas=While (mientras) - On the one hand....On the other hand - Although/ even though +-Clause - Despite = In spite of + Ving + noun. - Despite/ In spite of the fact + Clause. <p>6.- <u>Giving conclusions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In short -To sum up -In conclusion <p>7.- <u>Rephrasing ideas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In other words. -That is to say - To make a long story short (colloq) <p>8.- <u>Saying obvious things</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obviously/ No doubt -There is no need to say that..... -I needn't say that... ; -Everybody knows..... 	<p>9.- <u>Adding extra Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Besides: además - Furthermore: Es más,... - What's more: Es más - In addition (to this),... <p>10.- <u>Expressing cause</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Because / as (conjunción)+ Clause - Because of + Noun -Due to (prep) - Owing to + Ving- - This is why + Clause - (have) a reason + Inf: una razón para <p>11. <u>Expressing consequence or result</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - so + adj/adv + that..... - so much /so many + noun + that..... - such (a) + (adj) + noun + that - As a consequence ... - As a result , como consecuencia - Consequently - So: por lo tanto; por consiguiente - Therefore/ Thus: por lo tanto <p>12.- <u>Expressing purpose (finalidad)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In order to - To +Infinitive (mismo sujeto) - So as (not) to - so that/ so + Clause (normalmente distinto Sujeto) <p>13.- <u>Expressing probability</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - probably: probablemente - To be likely to: ser probably - In all probability:con toda probabilidad - There's a good chance that: es muy probable <p>14.- <u>Expressing a condition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If: si - Unless: a menos que - as long as/provided/providing: con tal que - Otherwise: de lo contrario. - On the condition that. Con la condición de que - In case: por si acaso
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ARGUMENTATIVE TOPICS

- Advantages and disadvantages of being an only child.
- Advantages and disadvantages of being a working mother.
- Childhood is certainly not the happiest time of your life.
- Capital punishment is the only way to deter criminals.
- Examinations have a very bad influence on education.
- Parents are too permissive with their children nowadays.
- The space race is the world's biggest money waster.
- Pros and cons of living in a large modern city.
- Advertising performs a useful service to the community.

TRANSLATE INTO ENGLISH

1.- En primer tú no sabes qué duro es nuestro trabajo; en segundo lugar, no tienes experiencia laboral y para terminar, eres demasiado joven para ese puesto.

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2.- Por ejemplo, debes dirigir un equipo de 100 personas y deberías tener distintas habilidades, tales como paciencia, actitud positiva y voluntad de solucionar cada problema.

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3.- Estoy de acuerdo con esa afirmación hasta cierto punto. Desde mi punto de vista las cosas no son tan sencillas como puede parecer. Si todo fuera tan sencillo, la vida sería mucho mejor

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4.- Por lo general las mujeres son más sensibles que los hombres; sin embargo, conozco a algunas mujeres que parecen piedras y a algunos hombres llorar mientras veían una película romántica o una canción de amor.

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5.- A pesar de los inconvenientes, y aunque puede que tengamos muchas dificultades, estoy decidido a tomar el riesgo. En mi opinión, vale la pena intentarlo

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6.- Como conclusión, todo el mundo busca la felicidad y la gente hará tantas cosas como necesite para conseguirla. Ser feliz es el objetivo que todos nosotros compartimos.

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7.- La vida está llena de tragedias que jamás sucedieron; es decir, muy a menudo tenemos miedo y pensamos que lo peor nos va a pasar a nosotros o a nuestros seres queridos

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8.- No hace falta ni decir que todo el mundo se emociona cuando sus sueños se hacen realidad y es obvio que tarde o temprano algunos de nuestros sueños se cumplen

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9.- No tienes razón cuando dices que no hay gente mala y perversa; además, no tienes que ir muy lejos para descubrir que están por todas partes

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.....

10.- Debido a la crisis económica hay mucho paro y la gente está muy preocupada por su futuro y su trabajo. Esto es por lo que el gobierno y los partidos políticos están discutiendo qué medidas se deben tomar para poner fin a esta situación.

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11.- Inglaterra es un país tan rico y tiene tantos recursos económicos que muchas empresas quieren invertir su dinero allí

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