(Difference Between Argumentative and Exploratory Essays)

Created by: Alyssa Acosta

What is an argumentative essay and what does it contain?

- An essay driven by a clear position that one argues using evidence.
- Composes of an introduction, body paragraphs, a counterargument, and a conclusion
- The thesis is clear, concise, statement that shows the reader your position on the topic
- Examples: High school graduates should be required to take a year off to pursue
 community service projects before entering college in order to increase their maturity and global awareness.

What is an exploratory essay and what does it contain?

- Definition: An essay that gathers information about a certain topic and explains that information.
- Composes of an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion
- The thesis statement shows the writer clear knowledge on the sources
- Example: In modern times it became very fashionable to treat the city as a form of human coexistence in a definitely negative way due to a variety of reasons: both the industrial plants and streets overfilled with cars produce most pollution on the Earth, people have to live in overcrowded conditions, drink water full of chemical substances, eat food of uncertain origins and so on. However, can the city really be considered to be responsible for our troubles?



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• Do's and don'ts: argumentative essays

Do's Don'ts

- Use the evidence to back up the claims
 made in the paper
- Have a clear position throughout the entire paper
- The counterargument should acknowledge the opposing view
- Then refute it with clear points and evidence

- Don't just summarize the sources
- Don't go back and forth between if you disagree or agree with the issue
- Don't derail in the counterargument
 by agreeing with opposing views

• Do's and Don'ts: exploratory essay

Do's Don'ts

- Develop a question or idea to explore
- Explore all sides of the topic, such as strengths and weaknesses
- Explain what the authors are trying to say and present it
- Don't stick to one stance throughout the whole essay
- Don't overwhelm your essay with too much information

References: Brizee, Tardiff, Allen, Elyssa. "Welcome to the Purdue OWL." *Purdure OWL: Creating a Thesis Statement*, Purdue OWL, 2018. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/



