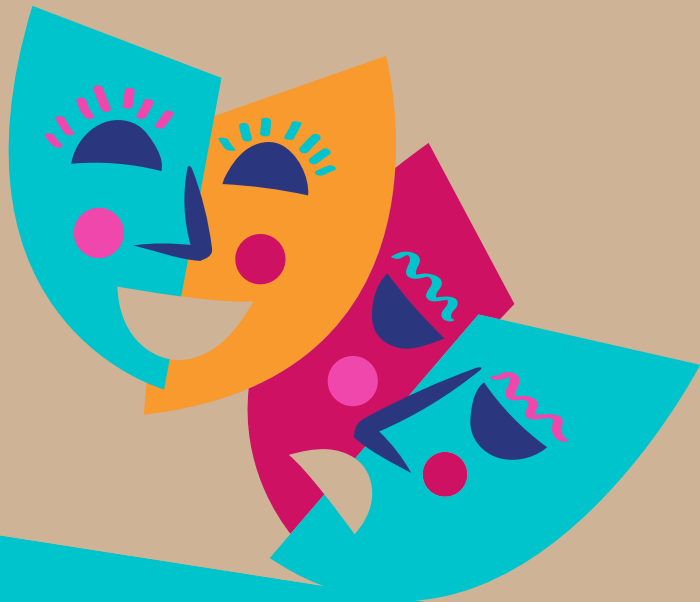




PART 2 OF A 4 WEEK SERIES

Writing Simple Arguments

Non-fiction Writing



Pair work

Work in pairs to come up a simple pros and cons list in response to a simple question like 'Should students wear a uniform to school?'

Discussion

Engage students in discussion on what makes a good argument and what makes a bad one, with references to structure, reasoning, elaboration etc.



Create

1) Split the class into two/three. Assist them to select a question for their argument. Each group may have a question.

Examples:

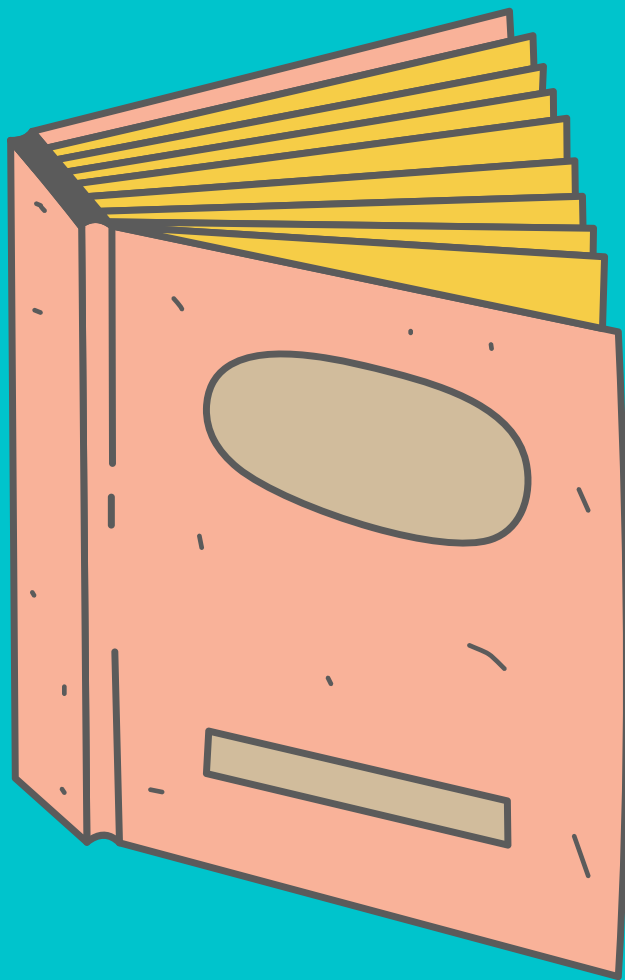
- Can we replace teachers with computers?
- Should the School Hours Shift to Be Later in The Day?
- Should you always obey your elders?

2) Students should work collaboratively to write a few paragraphs for and against the question.



JHS 2 syllabus guide: 4.3.1 write arguments for/against motions.

Helpful words and phrases



On the other hand; However
Provide opposing views

According to
Cite evidence to support claims

Furthermore, In addition to
Adding more points to support argument

In view of; In light of; Considering
Introduce certain circumstances

In conclusion; To conclude
Transition to an overall conclusion

Especially; Notably
To place emphasis on an important point

Tips and techniques

Structure - An introduction that give background information and signpost arguments; Three body paragraphs - two lines of argument + one counterargument; A conclusion that cements your main argument.

Precision and focus - Directly address the question and avoid excessive/unrelated points.

Use of evidence - use facts, statistics etc. to support your argument.

Elaboration - Give further explanation for the reasoning behind each idea/point.

