

Evaluation of Argumentative Writing

Directions: **A)** If you chose “Gaming Communities,” choose the article (either Vink’s **or** Rodgers’) that you think is *less* effective of the two. You will then determine the weaknesses or needs of that article and determine how to improve it, as well as identifying what the author is already doing well/effectively. **B)** If you did *not* choose “Gaming Communities,” use the same article that you used for the Argumentative Writing Analysis, then **choose one** of the two options: **1)** the article as it’s currently written for its current audience, or **2)** the article as it *would need to be* written if it were written to an audience that is of the opposite opinion from the original audience. You will then answer the following questions from the perspective of that chosen audience to determine the weaknesses or needs of that article to determine how to improve it, as well as to identify what the author is already doing well/effectively.

Article Title:

Audience: Current / Opposite

Author:

1. What are some of the biggest weaknesses, or areas of need, in the article? Answer the following questions to see what changes to make.

Tip: For those not doing “Gaming Communities,” *if you find yourself having difficulty answering this question, you might consider choosing option number two from the directions*

- What specific areas of research could it benefit from? (What specific facts would help strengthen new or existing claims?)
- What additional claims should it add?
- What counterclaims/counterarguments should it add and rebut?
- What additional support for its existing claims does it need?
- Where, if at all, is the tone inappropriate for the audience?
- Where, if at all, should the claims be reorganized within the article to better set up ideas?
- What other changes not already mentioned would you suggest? (For example, are there ideas to delete/remove? Are there other things to consider?)

2. What does the author do especially well? What would you make sure to absolutely keep the same if you were to rework the article to improve it? Answer the following questions to see which areas of the article you absolutely don't want to change.

- Use these questions to discuss the article's current strong points: Does it make strong use of research? Does it effectively rebut counterclaims? Is it addressing all the main claims/arguments? Is the tone and/or vocabulary appropriate for its audience? Is the organization of the ideas especially effective? **Explain** your answer(s) and reasoning.

- Which paragraphs are especially effective/strong right now? **Explain** your reasoning.