

English 092 Unit 3.2

Readings and Exercises

Learning Goals:

To gain and demonstrate an understanding of

- the process of writing a persuasive essay

Writing Assignment:

- Write a 500 to 600 word persuasive essay
-

All writing is persuasive to some degree, but the purpose of a “persuasive essay” is to intentionally attempt to change the way your reader thinks or feels about a certain contentious issue. To be successful, you have to plan carefully and present clear and valid points to back up your argument. You also have to be aware of your reader’s position, and acknowledge that people will have different feelings about an issue.

Readings

Chapter 17 Argument and Persuasion (Chapter 20, 5th Edition)

Take the time to read the pages 236 to 242 carefully. **(266-271, 5th Edition)**
Read “A City for Students” and “Of Pain, Predators, and Pleasure”.

Note that a persuasive essay requires a different approach than most expository essays. It’s not enough to provide facts. You have to convince the reader of the value of your position, and you can only do this by carefully considering your supporting points. As you read the examples of persuasive writing, decide if you are convinced by the writers’ arguments. Once you’ve completed the readings, go on to the essay assignment.