

Developing Your Concession/Rebuttal Paragraph

- 1) Examine your research articles. Find a reason given that opposes your opinion and state it as an opposing reason. Begin with whose opinion it is.
 - a. Concession example: Many school administrators think an open campus would be a temptation for students to cut classes and act irresponsibly.

Your concession statement:

- 2) Argue back. State your logical argument refuting that reason. Begin with a transition word that shows contrast.
 - a. Rebuttal example: However, students who earn the privilege of open campus would be unlikely to jeopardize that privilege; besides, rules could be created to rescind the privilege after one class cut.

Your rebuttal:

- 3) Find a quote to support your rebuttal.
 - a. Example of quote defending rebuttal: According to Principal Joseph Atkins,, “97% of students at Scotch Plains High School in New Jersey maintained their honor role status after three years of open campus” (Smith).

Your quote defending your rebuttal:

- 4) Explain how your quote defends your rebuttal.
 - a. Example of explanation of quote: Students would never risk lowering their grade point by cutting a class.

Your explanation of your quote:

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What will that look like as you write your paragraph?

Many school administrators think an open campus would be a temptation for students to cut classes and act irresponsibly. However, students who earn the privilege of open campus would be unlikely to jeopardize that privilege; besides, rules could be created to rescind the privilege after one class cut. According to Principal Joseph Atkins, “97% of students at Scotch Plains High School in New Jersey maintained their honor roll status after three years of open campus” (Smith). Students would never risk lowering their grade point by cutting a class.

Repeat the above process:

5) Examine your research articles. Find a 2nd reason given that opposes your opinion and state it as an opposing reason. Begin with whose opinion it is.

- a. 2nd concession example: Some small business owners also dislike the idea of open campus. They think an open campus would create havoc in their stores, resulting in extra litter and theft.

Your 2nd concession statement:

6) Argue back. State your logical argument refuting that reason. Begin with a transition word that shows contrast.

- a. Rebuttal example: On the other hand, students have just as much right to shop in stores as adults. What difference does it make whether they shop during school hours or after school hours?

Your rebuttal to the 2nd concession:

7) Find a quote to support your rebuttal.

- a. Example of quote defending rebuttal: Shop owners agree that students are “polite and neat when shopping during school hours” (Smith).

Your quote defending your rebuttal:

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8. Explain how your quote defends your rebuttal.

- a. Example of explanation of quote: Students will still abide by shop owners' rules whether it is during school or after school.

Your explanation of your quote:

9. Write a wrap-up sentence that refers to your thesis statement.

What will that look like as a completed concession/rebuttal paragraph?

Many school administrators think an open campus would be a temptation for students to cut classes and act irresponsibly. However, students who earn the privilege of open campus would be unlikely to jeopardize that privilege; besides, rules could be created to rescind the privilege after one class cut. According to Principal Joseph Atkins, "97% of students at Scotch Plains High School in New Jersey maintained their honor roll status after three years of open campus" (Smith). Students would never risk lowering their grade point by cutting a class. Some small business owners also dislike the idea of open campus. They think an open campus would create havoc in their stores, with extra litter and theft. On the other hand, students have just as much right to shop in their stores as adults. What difference does it make whether they shop during school hours or after school hours? Shop owners in Scotch Plains agree that students are "polite and neat when shopping during school hours" (Smith). Students will still abide by the shop owners' rules whether it is during school or after school. Surely, no good reasons exist to delay the passage of the open campus policy.