

Refuting the Opposition

Opinion Writing

TODAY

*We will learn **how and why to refute people** who have the opposite stance.*

*I will **write a paragraph refuting people who disagree** with my stance.*

ON YOUR OWN

Read the arguments from an editorial written as a list: Why would people on the opposite side not likely be persuaded by these arguments?

Homework is dumb.

- Students are busy and don't have time for homework after school.
- Homework distracts from extracurricular activities and makes those groups suffer.
- Students don't like homework.

ON YOUR OWN

Read the arguments from an editorial written as a list: Why would people on the opposite side not likely be persuaded by these arguments?

*There is **no clash between teachers' reasons for assigning homework and their reasons for banning it.***

The author should have addressed, somewhere in the article, the idea that homework is not an efficient way to practice work or that students could practice their work incorrectly, which would reverse the learning process.

THOUGHTS?

Cheerleading is not a sport.

THOUGHTS?

Pie is better than cake.

THOUGHTS?

Those that can't do, teach.

THOUGHTS?

Water is wet.

THOUGHTS?

There are more doors than wheels.

THOUGHTS?

Math was discovered, not invented.

THOUGHTS?

Universal human rights can exist.

THOUGHTS?

Facts cannot ever be opinion.

THOUGHTS?

Religion is not relevant to government.

THOUGHTS?

Unbiased journalism is a fool's errand.

YOU SHOULD HAVE LEARNED

1. **Refutation undermines reasons people disagree *with you*, making them easier to persuade.**
2. **Understand the other side's genuine reasons *for their position*.**
3. **Refute the big ideas, especially those relevant *to your position*.**
4. **Give the other side a legitimate explanation *so the opposition feels like the you fully understands their reasons, which makes them more likely to read and become persuaded*.**