**Argumentative Writing Sentence by Sentence Formula**

**I – Introduction Paragraph:** The writer must introduce, develop, and explain the overall subject for the reader.

Opening statement with theme included (a general statement about the subject connected to a theme the reader will accept in a compound sentence).

Background information answering the - who, what, when, where in two sentences (show your reader you understand the subject).

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Source material or theme continuation (this sentence needs to lead the reader forward from the previous sentences to your precise claim).

Precise claim (your entire piece must support this statement).

**Body Paragraph One:**

Opening statement with theme and main point statement (your entire paragraph must support the main point).

Background information about the main point the - who, what, when, where in two sentences (show your reader you understand the subject).

Source and source material introduction.

Source material paraphrase (this sentence “sets up” your quoted information).

(Example: In her article, *Frogs Are Our Friends*, Harvard research biologist Jane Smith says that frogs are an important climate change marker species.)

Source material quote with attribution to source. (… said Smith.)

Elaboration about the evidence illustrating what it means and why it’s important.

Example tying main point to source material (illustrate the main point).

Connect main point to precise claim.

**Body Paragraph Two:**

Opening statement with theme and main point statement (your entire paragraph must support the main point).

Background information about the main point the - who, what, when, where in two sentences (show your reader you understand the subject).

Source and source material introduction.

Source material paraphrase (this sentence “sets up” your quoted information).

Source material quote with attribution to source.

Elaboration about the evidence illustrating what it means and why it’s important.

Example tying main point to source material (illustrate the main point).

Connect main point to precise claim.

**OC – Opposing Claim Paragraph:** An opposing claim, or counterclaim, shares the point of view of people who do not agree with your claim. Opposing claims must be fairly presented, but the goal is to establish your rebuttal to the opposing claim.

Opening statement introducing opposing claim.

Establish the opposing claim focusing on the source (who) of the claim with the point (what) of the opposing claim.

Source material paraphrase for opposing claim (this sentence “sets up” your quoted information).

Source material quote for opposing claim with attribution to source.

Rebuttal statement showing how the opposing claim does not meet the expectations of your precise claim (this may take two sentences).

**C – Conclusion Paragraph**

Tie main points to precise claim and tie to theme with two or more sentences.