

# Extended Response: Argumentative Essay

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# The Basics

- Take a “yes” or “no” stance
  - Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are the best sandwiches.
- State problem AND position
  - Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are in danger of being eliminated from NYS lunch programs, which is unfair to those who see them as a healthy, vegan alternative.
- Reword and restate the point at the end
- Analyze source texts
- Don't just restate, expand and elaborate

# Structuring Essay

## Thesis

- Claim
  - Evidence
- Claim
  - Evidence
- Claim
  - Evidence
- Refute counter argument (1-2)
  - Evidence
- Conclusion
  - So what? Why does this matter?
  - Summary of main points
  - Restate your position

# Structure of Arguments

- “Claims: what you want people to believe
- Reasons: the “because” behind the claim
- Evidence: proof of the claims
  - Types of evidence
    - expert testimony (statements by authorities on the topic)
    - reliable data (facts from credible sources)
    - observations
    - stories or case studies (narratives of others that support your claim)”

# Example



Peanut butter is a healthy non-meat alternative because of its high ratio of unsaturated fats and health benefits.



Studies prove that people who regularly consume peanut butter are less likely to develop heart disease.

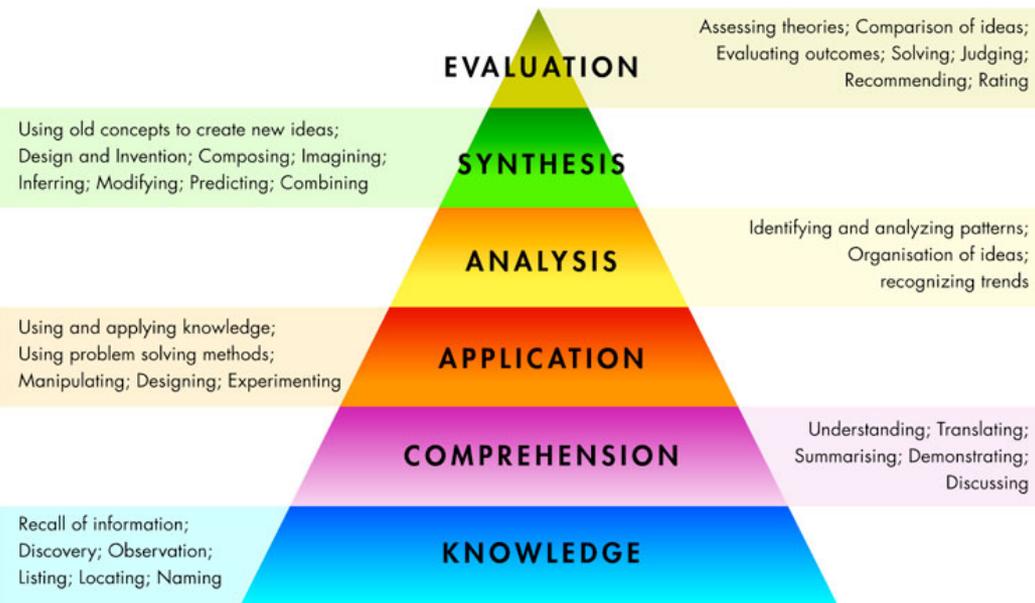


# Methods of Arguing

- Most of your argument will be logical reasoning, i.e. evidence
- Argumentative Language
  - “The effects of such a decision on food prices, however, could be **nothing short of disastrous.**”

# Bloom's Taxonomy- Suggested Paragraph Structure

## B L O O M S   T A X O N O M Y



- 1<sup>st</sup> sentence shows **COMPREHENSION**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence shows **KNOWLEDGE**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence shows **ANALYSIS**
- 4<sup>th</sup> sentence shows **SYNTHESIS**
- 5<sup>th</sup> sentence shows **EVALUATIVE**

**APPLICATION** is used throughout

## First Sentence: Comprehension

The author of Passage A contends that increased ethanol production promotes economic growth and makes the United States more energy independent.

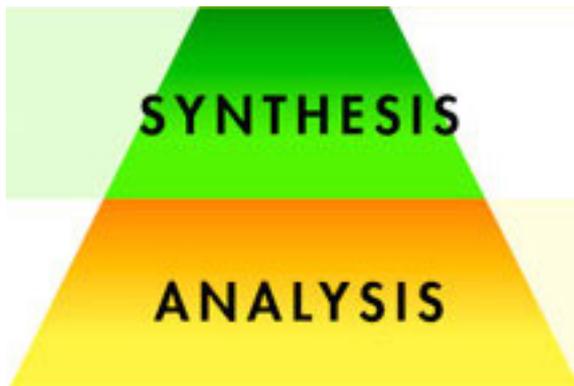
**COMPREHENSION**

## Second Sentence: Knowledge

The author projects the likely effects of increased biofuels production on the economy and oil imports but does not furnish any information to support these estimates.

**KNOWLEDGE**

## Third Sentence: Analysis/Synthesis



The claim that increased ethanol production will lower fuel prices is more convincing than the claim that increased corn production used for ethanol will have little effect on the price of corn used for consumption.

## Fourth/Fifth sentence: Evaluate



Although the author lists other factors that influence corn prices and shows how reduced fuel prices lower production costs for corn growers, this evidence is not sufficient.

# Outline for Extended Response

## Topic

- Main idea 1
  - Evidence
  - Evidence
- Main Idea 2
  - Evidence
  - Evidence
- Counter argument
  - Evidence refuting

## Limitations of Homeschooling

- Lack of Socialization
  - Absence of classroom collaboration
  - Missing diversity in teachers & peers
- Lack of access
  - Parents aren't experts in all subjects
  - Limited facilities and resources
- Bullying situations may be avoided
  - Students may not be prepared for real-world interactions

# Refuting a Claim

- Find the weak points
  - Missing evidence
  - Insufficient evidence
  - Lack of logical connections
  - Places where emotion replaces logic
- Argue against a counterclaim by describing how an author misuses or ignores evidence or misleads