

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

LO: To understand what makes a good persuasive argument.

Our new English topic for the next few weeks is persuasive writing. In this topic, you will need to argue your case to me and convince me you are correct. It is great fun to write to persuade and is quite an extreme writing style, which is why it is so fun!

Over the next few weeks, we will be arguing for and against a variety of controversial topics and it is your job to make your argument strong.

Today, we are going to be looking at how to make a strong case and persuade your reader that you are correct.

*Please read the example on the website named 'Mobile Phones'.*

After reading the persuasive writing text, we can clearly see that the writer is arguing that people should use mobile phones for many different reasons. When the writer mentions anything negative about phones, they almost avoided/ didn't make a big deal out of the negatives, they actually undermined them by saying the advantages outweigh them which is a good technique to use. They did this both at the very beginning and the very end.

The beginning of the text introduces mobile phones generally and talks about how important and popular they are without going into much detail or mentioning specific facts yet.

Following this, each paragraph talks about a different argument for the use of mobile phones. They use adverbials to start off their paragraphs in a list-like way, 'firstly', 'secondly', etc to imply that there are many reasons why mobile phones should be used.

The writer uses extreme, confident language throughout to make his argument seem strong and accurate. You will notice that a lot of the writing is opinionated, but it is said so confidently that it sounds like facts. This is to make the argument more convincing.

Have a go at answering these questions about the text:

Questions:

- What positive reasons does the writer give for using mobile phones? Find three.
- Find two examples of how the writer undermines negative reasons for having mobile phones (introduction and ending).
- How does the writer use extreme/ exaggerative language and opinions to make their points stronger? Find 2 examples. (example 'a very important and useful tool in modern life'.

Task:

*'Children over 8 should be allowed to have mobile phones.'*

I would like you to plan an argument both for and against children over 8 having mobile phones. I have written some example points below for you to sort, but I would like you to write 10 of your own too.

Create a table with two sides like mine. Write all your points in whichever side you think they should go. Tomorrow you will write your argument, today you just plan it.

For	Against
Children can communicate with their friends.	Children will not be going outside enough to exercise if they have too much technology.

Example points to sort:

Children might talk to strangers online.

Having a phone means if you get in trouble or lost, you can contact your family.

Mobile phones are great for finding out information and learning.

They are very expensive.