



# Writing to Persuade **Counterargument**

Counterattacking is a common tactic in sport, and the same goes for writing to persuade. It might seem sensible to ignore alternative viewpoints and focus solely on your own; however it is far more effective to address opposing views... and then knock them down!

The topic sentences below establish one argument. It is your task to provide the counterargument, i.e. write the opposing viewpoint so that it appears much more forceful.

The issue of single-sex education has been hotly debated for years. Many people claim that pupils will concentrate far better if the distractions of the opposite sex are removed from the classroom. However, ...

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Homework is a vitally important part of education. Studies routinely show that doing at least one hour of homework every evening reinforces learning and improves grades. On the other hand, ...

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School uniforms are loved and hated in equal measure. From the school's perspective, a shared dress code binds us together as a community...

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Now take a topic of your choosing and consider both sides of the debate.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

For	Against

Turn your ideas into an extended piece of writing, arguing whichever way you feel most strongly about. However, make sure that you address the opposing view and provide a counterargument that strengthens your own.