

# Discursive Arguments

## Discursive Arguments

First paragraph states issue.

‘There is a lot of discussion about whether...’

Second paragraph states three arguments in favour, linked by connectives.

‘People who agree with this argument claim that.....’

‘They also argue that.....’

‘A further point they make is.....’

Third paragraph states three arguments against, linked by connectives.

‘However there are also strong arguments against this point of view.....believe that.....’

‘They say that.....’

‘Furthermore they claim that.....’

Fourth paragraph states which side of the argument the author comes down on and say why.

‘On balance I think that .....’

Issue

There is a lot of discussion about whether animals should be kept in zoos.

1<sup>st</sup> Argument for

2<sup>nd</sup> Argument for

Some people claim that it is cruel because wild animals need their freedom and like lots of space. They also argue that the British climate is not suitable for many wild animals and they are never completely healthy. A further point they make is that people only come to zoos to be entertained and that they might just as well watch nature films.

3<sup>rd</sup> Argument for

1<sup>st</sup> Argument against

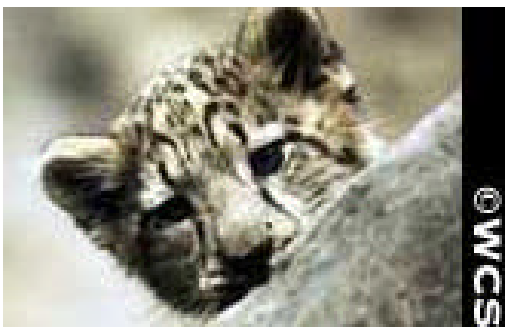
However, there are also good arguments against this point of view. Zoo owners argue that they now make great efforts to make sure animals are kept in a space similar to their own environment. They say that animals can cope with different climates as long as their diet is right. Furthermore they claim that they serve an important purpose by breeding rare animals that are dying out in the wild.

2<sup>nd</sup> Argument against

3<sup>rd</sup> Argument against

On balance I think that zoos are a good idea because they are both educational and scientific. They educate people about animal behaviour and they preserve endangered species.

Summing up on one side or the other

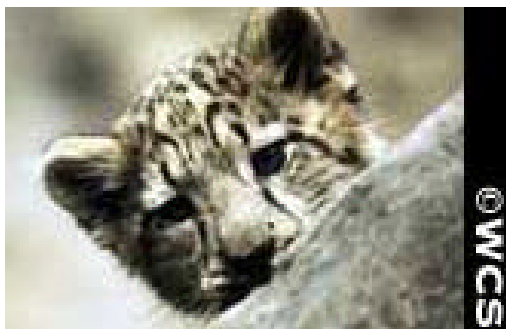


There is an issue of discussion about whether animals should be kept in 2006.

Some people claim that it is cruel because wild animals need their freedom and like lots of space. They also argue that the British climate is not suitable for many wild animals and they are never completely healthy. A further point they make is that people only come to zoos to be entertained and that they might just as well watch nature films.

However, there are also good arguments against this point of view. Zoo owners argue that they now make great efforts to make sure animals are kept in a space similar to their own environment. They say that animals can cope with different climates as long as their diet is right. Furthermore they claim that they serve an important purpose by breeding rare animals that are dying out in the wild.

On balance I think that zoos are a good idea because they are both educational and scientific. They educate people about animal behaviour and they preserve endangered species.



There is a lot of discussion about whether children should be given pocket money.

People who agree that they should, claim that it is a part of their education to get children used to handling money. They also agree that children should be encouraged to make choices, for example, whether to spend their money straight away on sweets or to save up for something big. A further point they make is that it is hard for children to buy presents unless they have some money of their own.

However, there are also arguments against this point of view. Other people feel that children shouldn't be given something for nothing. They say that children should earn money for doing jobs. Furthermore, they claim that some parents can't afford pocket money and that others giving it creates bad feeling.

On balance, I think that children should be given some pocket money in order to buy things they need but if they want more they should earn it.



There is a lot of discussion as to whether children should be given homework or not.

Some people claim that children do enough work in school already. They also argue that children have hobbies that they want to do after school, such as sports or music. A further point they make is that a lot of homework is pointless and doesn't help the child learn at all.

However there are also strong arguments against this point of view. Parents and teachers argue that it is important to find out whether children can work on their own without support from the teacher. They say that the evening is a good time for children to sit down and think about what they have learned in school. Furthermore they claim that the school day is too short to get anything done that needs doing and it makes sense to send home tasks like independent reading or further writing tasks that don't need teacher support.

On balance I think that some homework is a good idea but that it should only be given at the weekend when children have more time.



# **Discursive Argument Checklist**

I have used four paragraphs

My first argument states the issue being discussed

My second paragraph gives three arguments for the issue

My third paragraph gives three arguments against

My final paragraph states which side of the argument I'm coming down on and says why

I have used a range of connectives

I have checked my spelling

I have checked my punctuation