

## Journal Entry #

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- ▶ You use persuasive argument skills all of the time! When was the last time you had to persuade your parents to let you do something that you really wanted to do? What was it? How did you convince them? What do you think was the turning point in the argument? Explain your side and their side of the argument
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# Persuasive Writing

## Why we write persuasive essays

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*In persuasive writing, we try  
to convince others to:*

- ▶ *agree with our facts*
- ▶ *share our values*
- ▶ *accept our argument and conclusions*
- ▶ *adopt our way of thinking.*



# Things you want to think about

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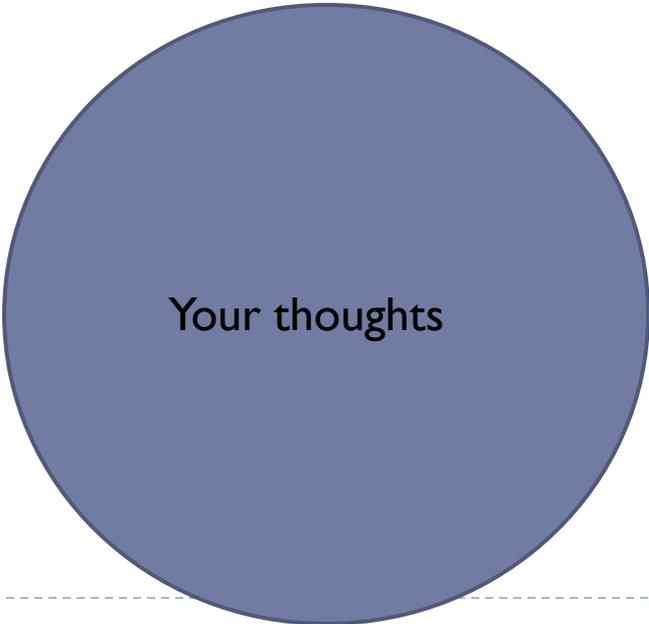
- ▶ **establishing facts**  
to support an argument
- ▶ **clarifying relevant values**  
for your audience (perspective)
- ▶ **prioritizing, editing, and/or sequencing**  
the facts and values in importance to build the argument
- ▶ **forming and stating conclusions**
- ▶ **"persuading" your audience** that your conclusions  
are based upon the agreed-upon facts and shared values
- ▶ **having the confidence**  
to communicate your "persuasion" in writing
- ▶ **Know** your audience – who are you talking to



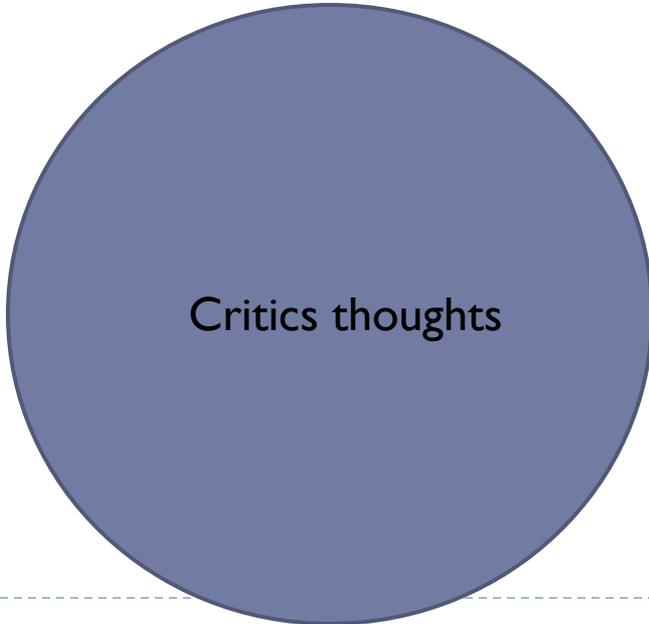
# Brainstorm

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- ▶ How do you feel about the argument?
- ▶ How does the opposing side feel about the argument?



Your thoughts



Critics thoughts

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# Introduction

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- ▶ Grab the attention of your audience! Make them want to read what you have to say!
- ▶ Briefly state the issue in the introduction but don't give specifics (leave that for later!)
- ▶ Your last sentence should be your thesis statement- what position of the argument your taking



# Why you should become a vegetarian

## Introduction

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- ▶ Vegetarianism has become the most popular diet among the young generations facing the new millennium. This discipline eliminates the intake of meat and in some cases also the consumption of dairy products and eggs. Are there enough reasons to make you change your eating habits? **My purpose is to prove that vegetarianism is the diet that offers more benefits to our health, spirit, and society.**
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# Body Paragraphs

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- ▶ Should be at least 3 paragraphs supporting your position
- ▶ Each paragraph should be a main point in your argument
  - ▶ And within each paragraph should be 3 small points supporting each main point
  - ▶ Be specific with your examples and points. Give concrete examples- **don't skim over the surface**
  - ▶ Be assertive in your statements
  - ▶ Avoid using “I” or “you” – make it professional not personal
- ▶ Use transitional sentences leading you to the next paragraph
- ▶ *Optional*- have a rebuttal paragraph on what the critics say against your argument



# Why you should become a vegetarian

## Body Paragraph #1

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- ▶ **If I were asked to describe a vegetarian, I would immediately mention they are very disciplined people.** It has been proved that there exists a remarkable correlation between the **people who succeed and people who follow a disciplined lifestyle.** People who are faithful to the disciplines they have acquired show integrity, a remarkable behavior, and they are usually in a good mood. **Vegetarians, always concerned about quality and discipline, develop a greater social responsibility that motivates them to improve their environment.**
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# Why you should become a vegetarian

## Body Paragraph #2

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- ▶ **Moreover, environmental issues have been capturing public attention because of their relevancy and increasing deterioration of our quality of life.** If you are concerned about the environment, consider that massive meat production can have a negative impact on tropical rain forests, soil stability, and air and water quality. Large extensions of forests have been cut and changed into grasslands that provide cattle with food. To conserve grasslands, fertilizers and other chemical substances are used; consequently, soil and water resources are polluted. Even though there are methods that avoid this kind of deterioration, producers prefer to ignore them so they can keep satisfying the increasing meat demand without affecting their production rates.
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# Why you should become a vegetarian

## Body Paragraph #3

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- ▶ **Nowadays, health is the number one individual and governmental concern.** Health is a fragile factor, and its behavior relays mostly on the nutritional quality of the food we ingest. **A balanced non-vegetarian diet allows the consumption of all four main food groups including meat and other animal by-products that are important protein and fat sources.** Most of us consume more proteins and fats than we need. **An excess of proteins can cause kidney failure and/or osteoporosis, and a high-fat diet can eventually lead to heart disease, cancer, obesity, and diabetes.** On the other hand, vegetarians get protein from grains, beans, vegetables, and low-fat food. **This is how they reduce the risk of most diseases caused by fats. It is a myth to believe that vegetarians don't get enough proteins or that their diet is not balanced because they don't eat meat.** The key is variety and accurate combinations of energy and protein sources.
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# Conclusion

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- ▶ Restate each of your main points in your body paragraphs
- ▶ Go out with a punch!
  - ▶ Leave the reader with a strong statement that leaves them with an imprint of your argument



# Why you should become a vegetarian

## Conclusion

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- ▶ Vegetarians' life spans are increased and through this discipline they learn to live quality in all the possible aspects. Besides, their beliefs are congruent with their lifestyle and they take responsibility and action for problems within their own bodies and in their surroundings. Take a look at yourself. Is your health at risk? Have you been able to reach your goals? Are you a factor of change and improvement within your society? You must at least try becoming a vegetarian now that you know it is a tempting challenge and an exciting experiment that has advantages and no risks. Do it for your body, for your lifestyle, or for your environment, but do it. Stop letting others have all the credit, the fun, and the quality.
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# Recap

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- ▶ **Know** your audience
- ▶ Hook your audience in your introduction
- ▶ Have a **firm thesis** statement
- ▶ Use **assertive** statements
- ▶ Have **MAJOR** and **MINOR** points in your paragraphs
- ▶ Be **specific**
- ▶ Go out with a **punch**



# Your Persuasive Assignment

- ▶ Some public high schools have started to offer single-sex education, meaning that boys and girls are taught separately in classes such as math and chemistry. Those in favor believe that, as long as the educational opportunities are equal, separation of the sexes is the best method because there are fewer distractions. They argue that, in separated classes, students are less likely to act out gender stereotypes. Those opposed reply that separate is never equal. They believe that single-sex education is a recipe for gender discrimination. In your opinion, should public high schools offer single-sex education?
- ▶ In your essay, take a position on this question. You may write about either one of the two points of view given, or you may present a different point of view on this question. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position

