

Writing Arguments: Blending Fact and Opinion



A fact is a statement about something that has actually happened. Facts can be proven. Factual statements can be found in newspapers, magazines, business letters, etc. An opinion is a statement that expresses personal feelings, and it cannot be proved to be either true or false. Good argumentative writing takes a position on a subject, and then backs up that position with a blend of facts and opinions. Opinions, in argumentative writing, are often supported by anecdotal evidence.

1. Write both a factual statement and an opinion about each of the following:

college
debt

the lottery

computers

2. Choose one of your opinion sentences above to develop into an argumentative essay. Then use your fact(s) and/or library references to develop factual information which will support your claim (opinion).

3. Write a thesis sentence for your argumentative essay, using the information you have prepared.