

CCC Writing Definitions

CLAIM (ARGUMENTATIVE):

- a position statement (or thesis) that asserts an idea or makes an argument;
- an arguable, debatable statement;
- a belief you have about a topic;
- the thesis statement for an argumentative text

Central Claim = _____ Supporting Claim = _____

CONTROLLING IDEA (INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY):

- the central idea of a piece of text;
- a sentence in the introduction of an essay that states the writer's position or opinion on the topic

CLAIM EVIDENCE/CONTROLLING IDEA EVIDENCE:

- information that supports or proves an idea or claim;
- elaboration or details about a topic;
- forms of evidence: facts, statistics, examples, observations, quotations or expert opinions

COMMENTARY:

- explanation of the way the facts, details, and/or examples support the topic sentence;
- a demonstration of the writer's thinking or analysis;
- reasoning that connects the evidence to the claim or controlling idea

OTHER C's to CONSIDER...

CLAIM CONNECTORS:

- transitions establishing logical connections between sentences, paragraphs, and sections of the writing

CONCLUDING SENTENCE:

- Wrap up the paragraph with a final piece of commentary or closing thought on the topic.

COUNTERCLAIM OR COUNTERARGUMENT:

- reasoning or facts given in opposition to an argument;
- opposing ideas

CITATIONS:

- giving credit to the authors of source information;
- precise reference to sources

CONVENTIONS:

- conventions of standard English;
- grammar; usage; spelling; capitalization; punctuation

CRAFT:

- tools and techniques of language; stylistic techniques; rhetorical devices
- word choice; diction; syntax
- figurative language
- voice; connection and commitment to subject matter