

Week of April 6 - 10

This week's assignment - I think we all need a bit of levity and lightness so, craft the components of an argument on the following topic...

Remember to use your different lenses (i.e. historical, cultural, artistic, economic, philosophical, scientific, etc) Also remember to include the counterclaim and its refutation!

The Hot Dog is a Sandwich. Yes or No (and why or why not)

This planning sheet should be used to organize your argument.

1. Definition and Categorization - Until you can define and categorize the main terms of the topic, including related words, you can not craft an argument. Corbett notes, "Definitions are not just meanings of words we look up in dictionaries. Definitions are kinds of arguments, and they have serious consequences for the direction as well as the destination of any practical reasoning."

Corbett and Eberly : The Elements of Reasoning.

Ideas to consider: What is a sandwich? What is not a sandwich? What is bread in this context?

What are the qualities of a hotdog? What comparison or contrast can be made to other foods in the same family? How far can we get until something is no longer considered a sandwich?

Your Notes:

2. Claim

Opinion vs. Claim

Opinion: "Of course a hotdog is a sandwich; everyone knows that."

Argument/Arguable claim: "A hot dog is/ is not a sandwich as ..." (simple but works for this assignment)

Opinion is supported by more opinion (and ultimately you end up with something along the lines of "Well, just because, okay?") A claim can be substantiated with research, evidence, and academic reasoning. (<https://depts.washington.edu/owrc/Handouts/Claims>)

Your Thesis Statement

3. Evidence: In this short, practice debate, do at least Second Hand Evidence and 1 other.

- ★ **First-hand Evidence** - personal and cultural experience (does a hotdog play a different role in society than a peanut butter and jelly ‘sandwich? Why does it matter?
- ★ **Second-hand evidence** - research and investigation - factual, historical, expert opinion and quantitative data (citing others) - find at least THREE on-line. *Ex: According to the US Dept. of Agriculture, the hot dog is not a sandwich because x, y, z.” (Source: The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Standards and Labeling Policy Book)*
- ★ **Analogical Evidence** - instances that make a similar comparison that your claim is making. *Hamburgers are/are not commonly considered sandwiches.*

Some evidence you found to support claim:

4. Counterclaim: anticipate the opposing perspective and then dismantle it.

Ex: Many people argue that hot dogs are/ are not sandwiches because:

What is the opposing claim?

5. Refutation to the Counterclaim:

Ex: Although some may argue a hot dog is/ is not a sandwich because y & Z , it is clear that this line of reasoning is incorrect because....

Refute: