

Parts of a Persuasive Piece

1. Position clear
2. Reasons with explanation (not simply state reason)
3. Explanation of solution for position (how it works)
4. Argument against (not too many, give important ones)
5. Solution to arguments against
6. Strong beginning
7. Repetition (pay attention to)
8. Language (tone)
9. Right amount of detail
10. Questions
11. Vignettes
12. Strong ending
13. Organization (where different parts are put)

Editor's note: Jack Wilde and his class generated this list based on the children's comparison of two student essays on the same topic. Then the students used the list to help them choose a criterion to focus on during their own drafting and revising process.