Activity Plan on Effective Persuasive Writing

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Aim: To discuss the characteristics of effective persuasive writing.

Motivation: If you wanted to convince your parents to let you do something out of the ordinary, what type of language would you use? Why?

Presentation: Review elements of persuasion (select a student to record these on the board or chart paper).

- Authoritative voice – forceful word choices
- Acknowledging the opposing view
- Providing specific examples and supporting details
- Citing respectable sources from a wide range of fields
- Using recent and relevant data

Guided practice: Assignment: Write a brief memo convincing the library to add or remove a specific text from its recommended college-bound reading list.

Students will use Inspiration™ (http://www.inspiration.com/home.cfm) software to brainstorm ideas for persuasive essays.

They will web pros and cons, as well as specific examples and supporting details.

They will cut and paste their webs and/or drafts of their work into Microsoft WORD™ and generate a first draft.

They will share their webs and/or drafts with the class for feedback.

Closure: How do effective writers persuade their audiences to adopt a specific point of view?