

J,

I am always glad to offer guidance for a student that cares about growing as a writer. An argumentative essay, most importantly, requires a strong thesis statement that is:

- 1.) Specific and focused -- the essay should be narrow and deep, not broad and superficial
- 2.) Arguable -- your thesis can't be an objective observation; it must be a subjective argument
- 3.) Acknowledge conflict -- your intro or thesis should show that there is an opposing viewpoint
- 4.) Forecasts main points -- your thesis and blueprint of main points will guide the organization of your essay

Furthermore, since your thesis statement is the center of gravity for your entire paper, all of your research must point back that that exact statement and support it in some way. Moreover, you must use high-quality research from refereed sources to support all of your arguments, and you must prove that you are comfortable integrating direct quotes. This means that you will introduce your speakers with credentials and effective signal phrases, and I reward students for trying to weave into and out of direct quotes in their sentences. Finally, your intro and conclusion should explicitly tell your reader about the big picture. What can your reader learn from your essay? Otherwise, watch your writing and grammar.

If you have any specific questions, feel free to send me another email.

Mr. C...

On Wed, Feb 19, 2014 at 7:14 AM, J <@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hello, I'm J from Mrs. B's Dual Enrollment class at xx High School in xx.

I am emailing you regarding my last essay. I seem to have made repetitive mistakes which caused me to get such a low grade. Although the grade is fair, it is still bothering me because I truly care. Without further a do, I am working on my final draft for the Argumentative Essay, and I was wondering if you had any constructive criticism or advice?

Thanks so much!

J