

Differences Between Opinion, Persuasive, and Argument Writing

	OPINION		PERSUASIVE		ARGUMENT	
Purpose	Opinion writing takes a stand on a topic and supports opinions with facts, definitions, and details.		Persuasive writing focuses on convincing the reader to agree with the author. The author uses logic and facts to persuade the reader.		Argument writing is used to support claims in an analysis of a topic. The writer uses facts, evidence, and reasons to develop claims and opposing claims.	
Key Transitional Words and Phrases	alsobecausethereforesincefor examplefor instance	in order toin additionconsequentlyspecificallyfinallyin conclusion	 first next last additionally not only (this), but also (this) 	for one thingconsidering (this)thusin other words	 but however in contrast while on the other hand nevertheless 	in either caseas a resultaccordinglyconverselyin conclusion
Key Words and Phrases from the Common Core State Standards	 K-5 support a point of view reasons and information facts and details concluding statement or section 		Persuasive writing is not mentioned in the Common Core State Standards.		 6-12 support claims analysis of substantive topics or texts valid reasoning relevant and sufficient evidence claims counterclaims formal style objective tone 	

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