

## Opposing Arguments

**DEFINITION:** An opposing argument (also called opposing claim, counter claim or rebuttal) is an argument that does not support your thesis statement. In fact, it directly contradicts it.

**WHY?:** By addressing an opposing claim (counter argument or rebuttal) you actually strengthen YOUR argument. It shows the reader you:

- Are credible, because you looked at both sides, and
- Can prove why the opposing argument is not correct.

**HOW?:** To address a counter claim:

1. State the opposing viewpoint.
2. What evidence may the reader use?
3. Rebuke the opposing argument.
4. Give evidence and explain why the counterargument is an incorrect interpretation based on the evidence.

### SENTENCE STARTERS:

People may disagree and claim           OPPOSING VIEWPOINT          ,  
citing           OPPOSING EVIDENCE           as evidence.

However, this viewpoint is incorrect because           REBUTTAL          .

A sentence that proves this is           EVIDENCE SUPPORTING ORIGINAL CLAIM          .

As can be seen from the evidence           EXPLANATION OF EVIDENCE            
          TO SUPPORT ORIGINAL CLAIM          .

Readers may not agree and claim           OPPOSING VIEWPOINT          ,

Evidence that supports this might be           OPPOSING EVIDENCE          

because           EXPLANATION IN SUPPORT OF OPPOSING ARGUMENT          .

However, this claim is weak because           REBUTTAL           and is

supported by evidence,           EVIDENCE SUPPORTING ORIGINAL CLAIM          .

This evidence shows           EXPLANATION OF EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT ORIGINAL CLAIM          

as evidence.

