

## Persuasive Essay Example

Over the next few weeks, we will be studying stewardship—the responsibility that we have for protecting and preserving our planet’s natural resources. You will be writing a persuasive essay designed to change minds about a topic connected to stewardship. This example, which includes sample sentences from a totally fictional (and totally funny!) persuasive essay on the need to ban ride-in car washes, will help you better understand the kind of work you are trying to produce.

Remember to replace the draft sentences examples with your own writing in the Your Turn column.

Paragraph	Section	Draft Sentences	Your Turn
Introduction	Start with a hook. Begin with a sentence that grabs the reader’s attention.	Have you ever been scared at the car wash? Think of all of the children who have been emotionally damaged.	
	State thesis. You should propose a law that _____ because . . .	I demand that you propose a new law that bans ride-in car washes because . . .	
	List reasons. List your reasons in order of medium, then weakest, then strongest arguments.	They traumatize young children, encourage dirty cars, and waste lots of water.	
Body 1	State reason. Give the first reason (not the weakest and not the strongest), starting with the word first.	First, car washes in which people stay in their cars can scare children, causing lots of harm to them.	
	Supporting detail 1 Explain why this is a good reason.	The tunnel-like environment resembles the locations of many scary amusement-park rides.	
	Supporting detail 2 Explain more about why this is a good reason.	The moving brushes can look like monsters to small kids.	
	Restate thesis. Say the thesis again, starting with the word therefore.	Therefore, a law banning ride-in car washes is needed to protect children.	
Body 2	State reason. Give the second reason (the weakest), starting with the word second.	Second, car washes give people an easy way to clean their cars.	
	Supporting detail 1 Explain why this is a good reason.	When cleaning something is easy, people often don’t worry about making it dirty.	
	Supporting detail 2 Explain more about why this is a good reason.	Think of how careful people will be to keep their cars clean if there are fewer car washes.	
	Restate thesis. Say the thesis again, starting with the word therefore.	Therefore, I think that banning car washes will discourage dirty cars.	

**REPRODUCIBLE**

<b>Paragraph</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Draft Sentences</b>	<b>Your Turn</b>
Body 3	State reason. Give the third reason (the strongest), starting with the word third.	Third, car washes are a huge waste of water.	
	Supporting detail 1 Explain why this is a good reason.	Car washes pump hundreds of gallons of water, which mainly goes down the drain.	
	Supporting detail 2 Explain more about why this is a good reason.	We should use our limited water supply for more important reasons, like bringing better drinking water to poor people.	
	Restate thesis. Say the thesis again, starting with the word therefore.	Therefore, it is critical that you propose a law to ban ride-in car washes.	
Conclusion	Restate thesis. Say the thesis again, in a different way.	Ride-in car washes are a big problem for our state. Banning them across North Carolina will benefit the citizens of this state in many important ways.	
	Restate reasons. List the reasons again but slightly reworded.	These car washes harm kids, encourage bad behavior by adults, and waste a precious resource.	
	Add zinger. Finish with a powerful sentence that leaves the reader thinking and wanting to act.	Act now to save our beloved state from the scourge of car washes that threaten to destroy this beautiful place!	