


Write a Persuasive Letter

Use this graphic organizer to write a persuasive letter, such as a letter to the president or a local representative, about an issue of importance for your community, the nation, or the world.

Use  **Audience**-appropriate language throughout your writing. If you are writing a letter to the president or a representative, your audience is specific--that individual. Think about that individual's values, statements, and actions when you are writing to appeal to him or her.

Dear _____:

Introduction

Begin your letter by introducing yourself and explaining your connection to your topic.

For example: I am a [descriptor, such as *10th grade student*] from [location]. [topic] is very important to me because [personal connection].

Evidence and Reasoning

Start with a surprising or powerful piece of evidence to grab your reader's attention.

For example: In fact, _____ affects _____ people in the United States right now, which shows that it is _____.

Name _____ Date _____

 **Claim and Reason**

Then connect your evidence and reasoning to your central claim.

For example: Because of _____, _____ is the most important issue facing the United States right now.

 **Counterargument**

For a letter to the president or a representative, you could refer to a position another official has taken or another public position that has been taken by others recently.

For example: [insert other representative's name] has focused on _____ recently, and while that is also an important issue facing the United States, it is not as critical as _____ because _____.

Conclusion

Conclude your letter by appealing to the reader to take action based on your claim.

For example: Because of this, _____ is the most important issue facing the United States right now.

Sincerely,