

Name:

Section:



Date:

Score:



Counterargument Thesis Statements



Perhaps no tool of persuasion is more powerful than the **counterargument**. When a writer understands opposing viewpoints or arguments counter to their own, they appear fair and nuanced in their thinking.

A great way to demonstrate objectivity and fairness as a writer is with a **counterargument** thesis statement.

These statements often begin with words like "although" or "while."

Here are some examples of **counterargument** thesis statements:



Example 1:

"While some argue that homework is essential for reinforcing learning and developing study habits, research suggests that excessive homework can negatively affect students' mental health and overall academic performance."

As you can see, this thesis starts with the opposing viewpoint and ends with the writer's main claim.

Example 2:



"Although many people claim Ronaldo is more athletic and physically imposing than Messi, it is Messi's creativity, presence, and quickness that make him a more complete soccer player than Ronaldo."

Once again, this thesis statement makes the writer appear fair. By acknowledging the strengths of Ronaldo first, the writer demonstrates that they have carefully weighed the evidence. Despite potential flaws in their position, one thing is clear: Messi is a more complete player than Ronaldo.

Here are a few more examples of **counterargument** thesis statements:

Example 3: "Although social media has revolutionized the way we communicate, it has also led to increased anxiety, depression, and loneliness among users."

Example 4: "While some people believe that video games are a waste of time, video games can actually have positive effects on cognitive development, socialization, and stress relief."

Example 5: "Although technology has made our lives more convenient, it has also resulted in a sedentary lifestyle, decreased face-to-face interaction, and increased screen addiction."

Now, let's do a quick quiz question before we move on:

Counterargument thesis statements often begin with which two words?

Let's move on to your activity. Your mission is to write five **counterargument** thesis statements. You need to write a thesis for each of the following topics:

- 1) Social media
- 2) The best food to eat
- 3) Video games
- 4) School
- 5) Topic of your choice



For example, for number two, you could write:

"Although tacos are simple to make and often delightfully tasty, it is clear that chicken Pad Thai is the best food to eat because of the way it delivers a combination of sensations and tastes."

So, once again, your mission is to write five **counterargument** thesis statements on the topics listed above.
