pgh:-)	**Fach** English	**Thema** How to write a good argument
	Datum	**Klasse** 9 - 12

How to write a good argument

A good argument should at least consist of the 4 following items:
1. *A claim/ thesis*
2. *An explanation*
3. *An example*
4. *A conclusion*

To understand this better, maybe the hamburger-metaphor helps. Think of a good argument like a good burger:

Thesis ———— upper bun

Explanation ———— lettuce

Example ———— patty

Conclusion ———— lower bun
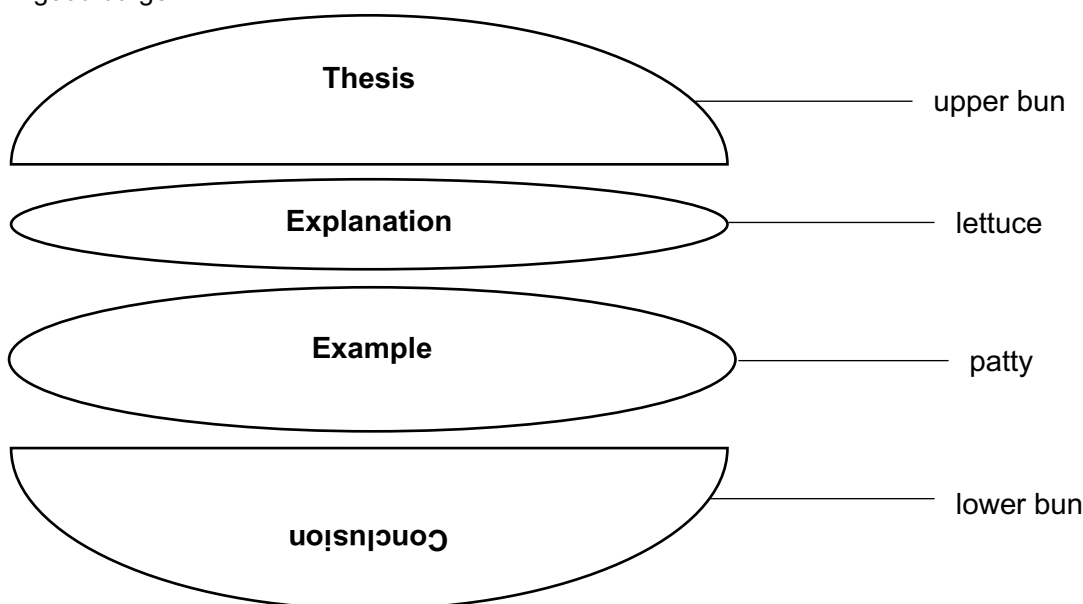
Note: Explanation and Example can be interchanged

Example argument:

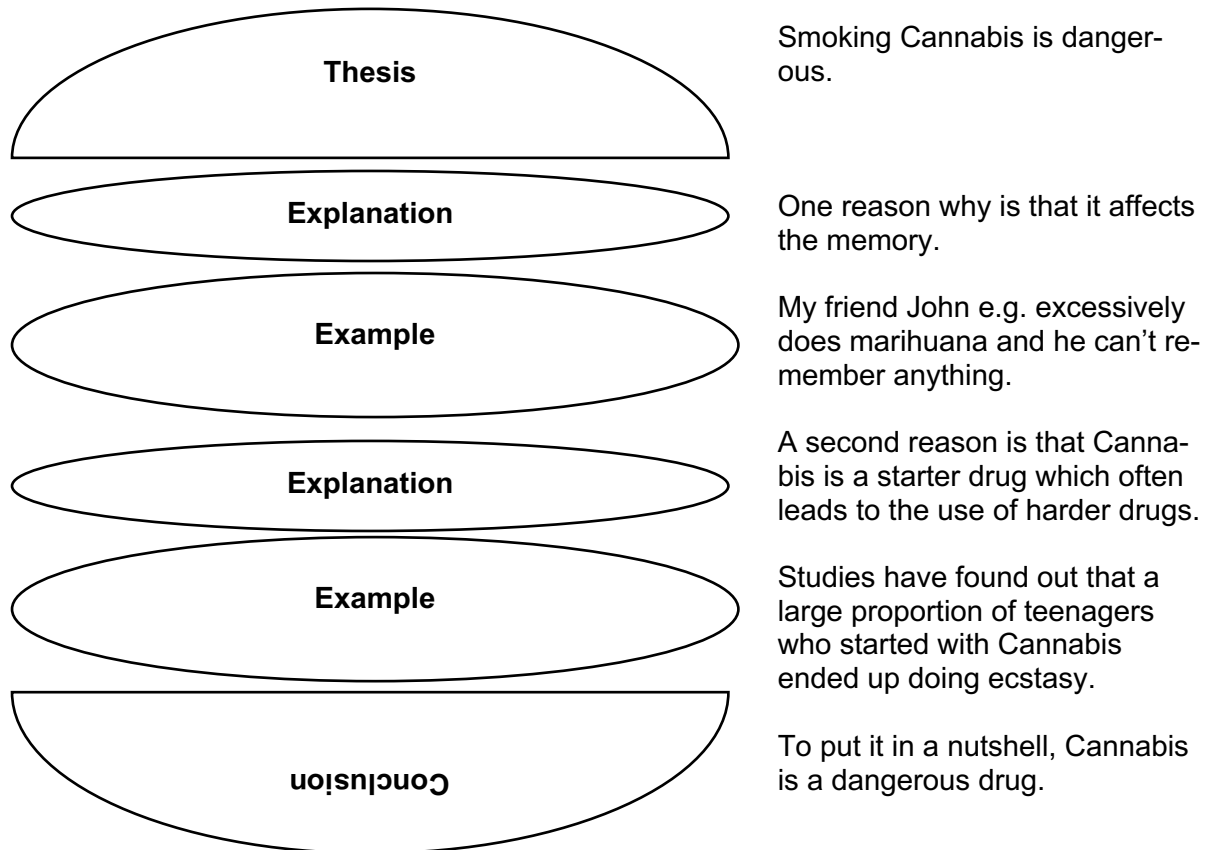|	
Smoking Cannabis is dangerous for the health.	***thesis***
Extensive use of Cannabis can affect your brain, more precisely the part that is responsible for learning, memory and decision making.	***explanation***
I have witnessed this first-hand with a friend. He regularly consumes marihuana and it's obvious that he has problems memorizing e.g. English vocab no matter how hard he tries.	***example***
To wrap it up, we can say that Cannabis can lead to health issues.	***conclusion***

Exercise: Put the jumbled parts into the correct order.

1   I know that since every time I read on my E-Reader for too long, I get headaches

2   To sum it up, tablets can cause pain.

3   We shouldn't use more tablets in class because they cause physical pain.

4   Starring at a screen for too long may cause dizziness, dry eyes or blurred vision

Correct order:

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But the burger can also have more than one topping (e.g. lettuce and tomatoes) and it can also have more than one patty. In extreme cases your whole essay consists of only one thesis and one conclusion and the rest are explanations and examples supporting the thesis.

Thesis

Smoking Cannabis is dangerous.

Explanation

One reason why is that it affects the memory.

Example

My friend John e.g. excessively does marihuana and he can't remember anything.

Explanation

A second reason is that Cannabis is a starter drug which often leads to the use of harder drugs.

Example

Studies have found out that a large proportion of teenagers who started with Cannabis ended up doing ecstasy.

Conclusion

To put it in a nutshell, Cannabis is a dangerous drug.

Task: Create a double or triple burger for one of the following topics.

- Renewable energies
- Legalizing Cannabis
- Discrimination (of African-Americans) in the US
- Refugees
- E-cars
- Another topic of your choice