

AWA → Issue task → 30 min  
→ Argument task → 30 min

Organization → Introduction → main point → short  
→ Body → 2,3 paras → meat  
→ conclusion → 1 para → short {Do not add new points, only restate}

Time mng → Brainstorm and outline (3 min)  
→ Start with thesis statement (1 min)  
→ Write body and examples (20 min)  
→ Write conclusion (2 min)  
→ Write intro (2 min)  
→ Edit (2 min)

# ISSUE TASK

- Brainstorm (make pros & cons)
- Choose a side
- Choose a concession point {Choose a point from opp side}

↳ Example: "Students should only take courses that have a direct bearing on their future careers"

→ Brainstorm →

PRO

- less time
  - graduate faster
  - less money
- } 1st para
- engaged in profession early
  - making money to pay loans
  - contribute to society faster
- } 2nd para

CONS

- well rounded
  - good for undecided students
- } Concession point

we pick this side

→ Thesis → A college curriculum should be designed around the career a student will pursue upon graduation

→ Body → Today's college curriculum requires that an English major complete courses in Physics, Biology and Chemistry (and even several units worth of a foreign language). If a British literature student's focus is, say, Chaucer and late Medieval English writing, his/ her knowledge of wormholes or the nuances of French etiquette is going to have very little bearing on his/her career. Sadly, this student will often be forced to spend an extra year, if not longer, struggling to complete these courses.

Specific

Hypothetical examples

Meanwhile, that student's goal of writing a dissertation on Chaucer and becoming an expert in the field becomes ever more distant. In the end, it is not unheard for a student to graduate and take some job unrelated to literature, just to cover the costs of an extra year of tuition. Of course, we could substitute in almost any other major and the story is the same: an aspiring concert pianist who must deal with the rigors of statistics, the scientist who must forgo working in a research lab because of some pesky requirement on British literature. Ultimately, forcing students to take classes outside of their intended careers can not only be costly and time-consuming but can also cause them to lose focus and inspiration.

persuasive

Conclude the para

→ Concession point → Some students are undecided when they enter college and should be able to explore different fields of study.

→ Conclusion → Colleges today have become a ritual in which students, forced to "do their time," are required to take courses outside of their area of expertise. The cost of this system is not only wasted years for students in lecture halls but also less time working in their respective fields. By depriving society of a motivated work force, even if for one year, colleges may be doing society more harm than good.

- Do not add new points
- Can be even one sentence

→ Finish idea → College has long been seen as the gateway to a successful career, and by extension, a successful life. While noble and lofty, this view has little bearing on reality – today colleges have become black-holes that suck students into a never-ending cycle of classes that bear little, if any relevance upon their future careers. Unsurprisingly, a culture of apathy, and not one of inspired learning, has resulted. Therefore, a college curriculum should be designed around the career a student will pursue upon graduation.

- This is our thesis

## ARGUMENT TASK

- Challenge the given argument
- Discuss ways in which the argument can be improved
- Identify the assumptions
- Strengthen and weaken argument

### ↳ LOGICAL FALLACIES {Holes in an argument}

#### → ① Things change:

In 1985, Hamson, a leading player in the aftershave market, launched a successful ad campaign. Therefore, Hamson, if it wants to repeat this success, should launch the same ad campaign.

- It won't work today only because it worked in 1985
- Maybe the target demographic changed

#### → ② Assumed Cause and Effect

After instituting a comprehensive bilingual education program, Monte High witnessed the greatest percent of its senior class go on to college. Therefore, Monte High should continue the bilingual education program.

- We can assume this
- Maybe new curriculum, better teachers

#### → ③ Numbers and Percentage assumptions

More students from this year's senior class at Monte High went on to college. Therefore, this year's seniors are Monte High's most successful.

- In 2010, we had 100 total of which 99 went to college (99%)
- In 2011, we had 200 total of which 100 went to college (50%)  
99 < 100 but 99% > 50%, 2010 was more successful

#### → ④ Vague Language

Studies have shown that those who eat three maxomeal fruit bars a day are in better shape than those who eat a normal diet.

Vague

Vague

#### → ⑤ Not all X are alike

A recent study found that 50-65 in Gambitville responded favorably to a new anti-cholesterol drug. Therefore 50-65 year old males in Smugsburg will also respond favorably to the drug.

- There can't be assumed to be the same

#### → ⑥ Don't trust a

According to Chillco's latest survey, the residents of Monroe Town are unlikely to commute to neighboring Jacksonburg unless a new highway is constructed. Therefore, the highway should be constructed.

- Did it poll all residents or selected ones

#### → ⑦ Apples aren't oranges

Since building a subway system, Gap Town has been able to cut down on its citizen's average commute. Therefore, Percyville should also build a subway system if it wants to reduce the average commute for its citizens.

- Different cities

### → Example argument →

The government in Littleville plans to build a large mall in a newly constructed zone just outside the city. Littleville hopes to attract many wealthy clients who it believes will shop at the Littleville Mall's many planned boutique stores. Ten years ago Bigsborough, a city in the same province, built an upscale mall in its fashionable downtown district. The mall was an instant success, so Littleville Mall can expect to profit in its first year.

- Find fallacies
- L = B
- Different residents (Rich vs poor) (Jungled vs phosligate)
- It is being built in totally different area
- Ten years ago, things changed

→ Writing intro → The following argument is flawed for numerous reasons. Primarily, the argument is based on the unwarranted assumption that the city of Littleville and Bigsburg are the same, rendering its main conclusion, that the Littleville mall will follow the success of Bigsburg's mall, invalid.

• main fallacy

→ Body

- Focus on 3 logical fallacies
- Strengthen argument

→ The argument fails to provide any justification that the two cities are similar in terms of their respective populations. For one, the residents of Bigsburgh may be wealthier than those of Littleville. This important difference could explain the success of Bigsburgh's mall. More significantly, the argument states that the Littleville's mall hopes to attract wealthy clientele. If Littleville is a middle or lower-class city, then the assumption that wealthy customers will patron the store is without basis.

• fallacy → different cities, different people

⑦

Had the argument provided information regarding the similarity in the income levels of the two cities' residents. Even then, the argument would have to further prove that, like the citizens of Bigsburgh, those of Littleville are likely to spend money at a mall.

→ Strengthen argument

The argument also leaves many other unanswered questions. Even if the residents of Littleville are wealthy enough to patron boutique stores, they are not necessarily likely to travel to a newly constructed zone. Nonetheless, the argument assumes that because residents of Bigsburgh frequented a mall in a fashionable central location area that the residents of Littleville, even if they are as likely to spend, will make a trip to a zone outside the city.

• fallacy → construction zone and downtown district

⑦

Finally, the argument claims without warrant that what held true ten years ago will hold true today. So even if we assume that the residents of Littleville are similar to those of Bigsburgh, the argument is still lacking because it does not provide information to show that the general economic climate has not changed.

• fallacy → Economy is the same as ten years ago.

①

→ Conclusion

→ Because the argument makes several unwarranted assumptions, it fails to make a convincing case that Littleville's mall will mirror the success of the one in Bigsburgh.