Your Argument Planner **(example)**

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| This task will assist you to get started on the major writing task the Scientific Argument.  You will demonstrate:   * your understanding of the Scientific Argument topic by developing a Main Claim * your research and logic by providing 2-3 reasons (sub-claims) supporting your Main claim * finding credible sources and provide reasoning linking the evidence to the sub-claims   Complete the task by editing this document; then upload it into Turnitin before your next workshop.  ***Note Australian Bushfires is still a banned topic!*** |

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| **Example Topic:**  Indigenous fire management and its benefits for the environment in Australia for dealing with destructive bushfires when integrated with STEM | | |
| **Example Research Question:** Based on the Global Challenges topic.  How would an integration of Indigenous fire management with STEM help deal with destructive bushfires in SW Australia and benefit the environment? | | |
| **Example Main Claim:** What is your answer to the research question?  Indigenous fire management knowledge ***should be***integrated with current land management practices to manage destructive bushfires in SW Australia more effectively | | |
| **Sub-Claim:** reason to support main claim  Indigenous fire management practices reduce the severity and magnitude of fires during the bushfire season | **Sub-Claim:** reason to support main claim  Indigenous fire management practices help decrease the destruction of flora and fauna from severe bushfires | **Sub-Claim:** reason to support main claim  Indigenous fire management knowledge is deep, multifaceted, based on an intimate knowledge of “country” |
| **Evidence:** What is the specific information or data from the literature that supports your claim? include the source:  There is evidence of regular cool-burning by Noongar people which reduced fuel loads.  Burrows, N. D. (2008). Linking fire ecology and fire management in south-west Australian forest landscapes. *Forest ecology and management, 255*(7), 2394-2406. DOI | **Evidence:** What is the specific information or data from the literature that supports your claim? include the source:  There are interviews of Noongar Elders’ traditional knowledge compared with patterns of disturbance at two different landscape types which show less damage to flora and fauna from serious bushfires.  Lullfitz, A., Pettersen, C., Reynolds, R., Eades, A., Dean, A., Knapp, L., ... & Hopper, S. D. (2021). The Noongar of south-western Australia: a case study of long-term biodiversity conservation in a matrix of old and young landscapes. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 133*(2), 432-448. <https://doi.org/10.1093/biolinnean/blaa097> | **Evidence:** What is the specific information or data from the literature that supports your claim? include the source:  The traditional Noongar approach of localized decision-making by those most intimately connected to the land is well-developed, covers multiple aspects and is based on an in-depth knowledge of the lands which they are caring for.  Prober, S. M., Yuen, E., O'Connor, M. H., & Schultz, L. (2016). Ngadju kala: Australian Aboriginal fire knowledge in the great western Woodlands. *Austral Ecology, 41*(7), 716-732.https://doi.org/10.1111/aec.12377Citations: 12 |
| **Reasoning:** How does evidence support your claim? Explain the link between the information/data and the sub-claim  Regular and widespread patch-burning by Noongar people, reduced fuel loads reduce the likelihood of very large, damaging wildfires **(In-text reference of source).** | **Reasoning:** How does evidence support your claim? Explain the link between the information/data and the sub-claim  Noongar knowledge of Mosaic or patch-burning practices describe safe haven for flora and fauna, and hence protects them during bushfires **(in-text reference of source).** | **Reasoning:** How does evidence support your claim? Explain the link between the information/data and the sub-claim  Noongar knowledge is valuable and necessary for south-west Australian biodiversity conservation **(in-text reference of source).** |
| **Example Counterclaim** (reason to not support main claim) and **Rebuttal** (refute the counterclaim):  [text]  **What is an opposing viewpoint or Counterclaim which can be used against the position?**  Integrating Indigenous fire management knowledge with current science might be costly and time-consuming  **To rebut or refute this Counterclaim, one could point out that:**  Even with the cost and time needed for this integration, the outcome would be arguably valuable (as this would help to reduce the magnitude of fires, lessen the destruction of animals and plants from bushfires and allow for swifter recovery of burnt areas)  Or economic and environmental cost of destructive bushfires make it worth the expense… | | |
| **Example Thesis statement:** It should take a position/assertion and provide 2-3 reasons why you think your claim is valid  e.g. By integrating [opinion] it is clear that [claim one], [claim two], and [claim three].  Indigenous fire management knowledge should be integrated with current land management practices to manage destructive bushfires in SW Australia more effectively, as Indigenous fire knowledge has been found to reduce the severity of fires during the bushfire season, decrease the destruction of flora and fauna from severe bushfires and intimately connected to the SW Australian landscape. | | |
| **Working Thesis statement:** take the best 2 subclaims above (refine the above statement to be a cohesive and concise sentence – can become two sentences):  **THIS PART DOES NOT NEED TO BE DONE AT ALL**  Indigenous fire management knowledge should be integrated with current land management practices to manage destructive bushfires in SW Australia, as Indigenous fire knowledge has been found to reduce the severity of fires and decrease the destruction of flora and fauna during the bushfire season.  *OR*  Indigenous fire management knowledge should be integrated with current land management practices to manage destructive bushfires in SW Australia more effectively. This is because Aboriginal fire knowledge is intimately connected to the SW Australian landscape and has been found to reduce the severity of fires and decrease the destruction of flora and fauna during the bushfire season. | | |

**Hints**

* A well-researched topic will discover a wealth of credible sources
* Additional information/sources will make your argument stronger
* Make sure you tell the reader what your opinion is and what paper is going to prove
* Take a position that is arguable, or that others may challenge
* Make sure your argument is logical e.g., Kakadu plums will not solve food security
* Ensure to address any counterclaims, or your writing is biased
* Recall that science writing is formal, cautious (remember that there may be circumstances where your claim is not true), and based on evidence; and not vague, flowery or bombastic!

Your Argument Planner

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| **Your Research Question:** Based on the Global Challenges topic.  [text] | | |
| **Main Claim:** What is your answer to the research question? (Ensure Indigenous science, global issues geographic area)  [text] | | |
| **Sub-Claim:** reason to support main claim [text] | **Sub-Claim:** reason to support main claim [text] | **Sub-Claim:** reason to support main claim [text] |
| **Evidence:** What is the specific information or data from the literature that supports your claim? include the source  [text] | **Evidence:** What is the specific information or data from the literature that supports your claim? include the source  [text] | **Evidence:** What is the specific information or data from the literature that supports your claim? include the source  [text] |
| **Reasoning:** How does evidence support your claim? Explain the link between the information/data and the sub-claim  [text] | **Reasoning:** How does evidence support your claim? Explain the link between the information/data and the sub-claim  [text] | **Reasoning:** How does evidence support your claim? Explain the link between the information/data and the sub-claim  [text] |
| **Counterclaim to sub-claim:**  (If possible) reason that does not support sub-claim  [text]  **DO NOT FILL THIS IN** | **Counterclaim to sub-claim:**  (If possible) reason that does not support sub-claim  [text]  **DO NOT FILL THIS IN** | **Counterclaim to sub-claim:**  (If possible) reason that does not support sub-claim  [text]  **DO NOT FILL THIS IN** |
| **Counterclaim** (reason to not support main claim) and **Rebuttal** (refute the counterclaim):  [text] | | |
| **Thesis statement:** It should take a position/assertion and provide 2-3 reasons why you think your claim is valid  [text] | | |
| **Working Thesis statement:** take the best 2 subclaims above (refine the above statement to be a cohesive and concise sentence – can become two sentences) (will be refined over the next few weeks as you complete further research and write your Argument):  [text]  **DO NOT FILL THIS IN** | | |