**Issues**

* What’s the issue being talked about

**Arguments**

* What is the author arguing?

**Types of Claims**

* **Claim of Fact** – Statement that can be proven or verified by observation or research
  + “Within 10 years, rainforests will be all gone”
* **Claim of Value** – States that one thing or idea is better or more desirable than another
  + “Requiring community service in high school will produce more community-aware graduates”
* **Claim of Policy** – Suggests wat should or ought to be done to solve a problem
  + “Metal detectors and security should be implemented In schools to lower gun violence”

**Parts of an Argument**

* **Step 1:** Identify author’s Assumptions
  + Consist of things the author takes for granted without presenting any proof
  + If assumptions are illogical or flawed, the whole argument will be flawed
* **Step 2:** Identify the Types of Support
  + Refers to the kind of evidence the author uses to back up the argument
  + Can include research findings, case studies, personal experience, examples, facts, comparisons, expert testimony and opinions.
* **Step 3:** Determine the Relevance of the support
  + Means the support is directly related to the argument
  + There will be rhetorical strategies or supports in play that support sub claims, but don’t relate to the main claim. Focus on the supports to the main claim
* **Step 4:** Determine author’s Objectivity
  + When the support consists of facts and clear evidence
  + Does the author present facts and clear evidence as support?
* **Step 5:** Determine the Argument’s Completeness
  + Argument is complete if the author presents adequate support and overcomes opposing points
  + Sometimes leave out information that would weaken their argument. Not cool.
* **Recognizing and Refuting Opposing Viewpoints**
  + Question accuracy of opponent’s evidence
  + Does author address opposing viewpoints clearly and fairly?
  + Does author refute opposing viewpoints with logic and relevant evidence?
* **Step 6:** Determine if the argument is Valid
  + Argument is valid if it is logical
  + Identify if any logical fallacies exist that may negate any potential supports
* **Step 7:** Decide if argument is Credible
* Has credibility if it is believable and is valid.

**Review: Evaluating and Argument**

* Identify issue
* Identify claim
* Identify assumptions, if any
* Identify types of support and relevance to the arguments
* Identify the completeness of the argument
* Identify if argument is valid
* See if author addresses opposing arguments and refutes them
* Decide if argument is credible

**Tips for Argument Analysis**

* Don’t become overwhelmed
* Watch for own biases
* GLHF