



ThinkerAnalytix

Evidence + Reasoning

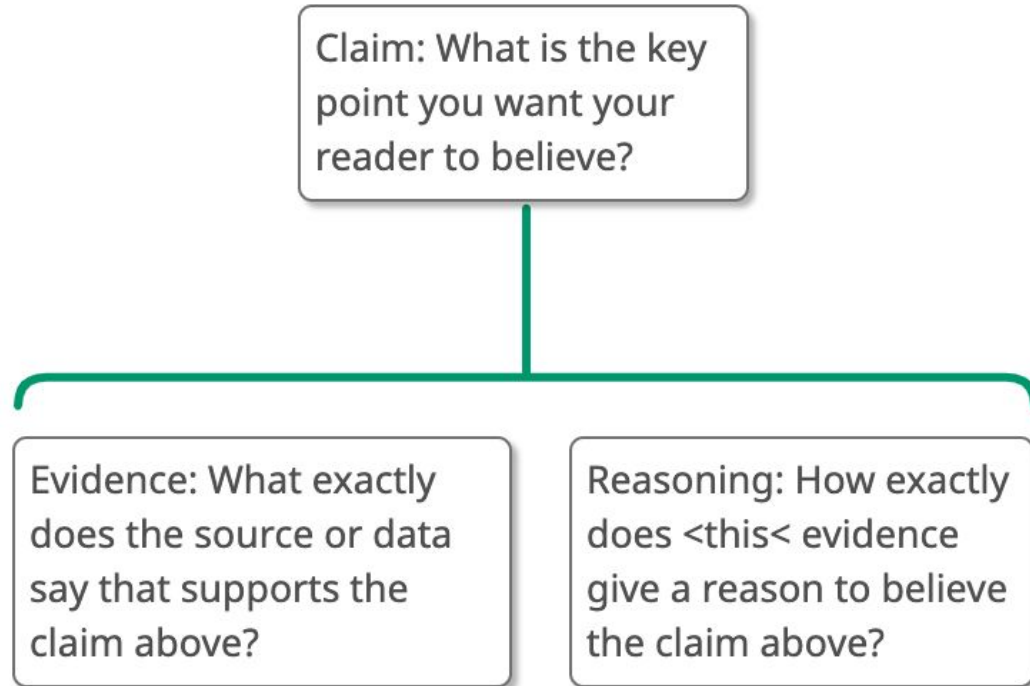




Definitions

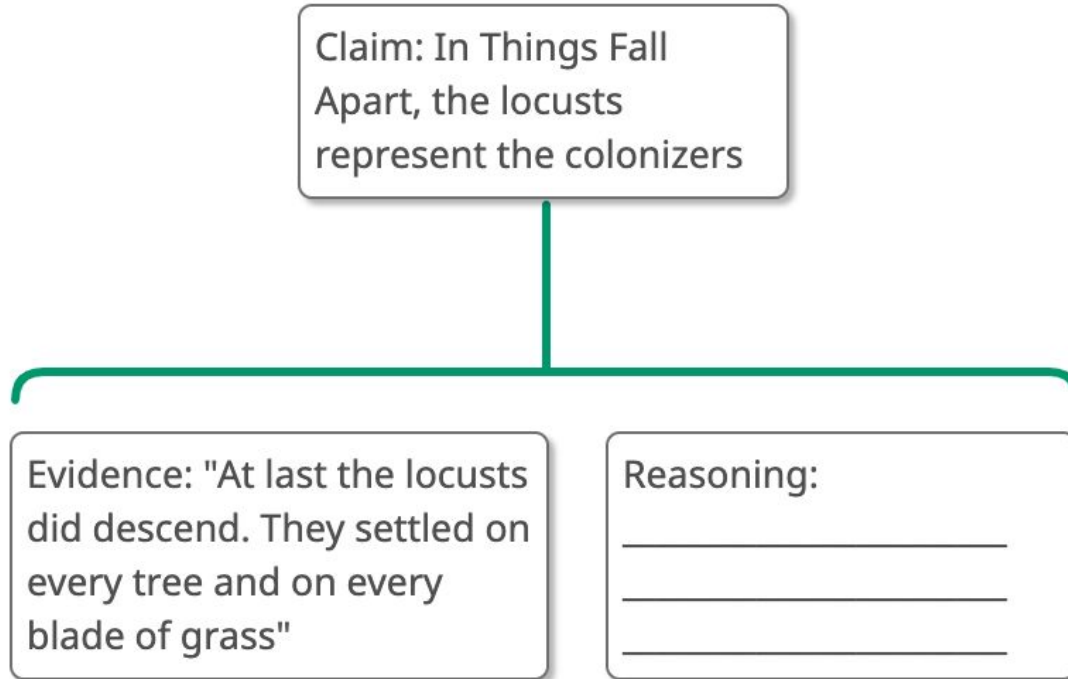
- **Premise:** A claim that gives a reason to believe another claim
 - **Evidence:** Concrete, specific, and/or factual information that is presented to support a claim
 - E.g. quote from a text, historical source, piece of data
 - **Reasoning:** Explains how/why the evidence helps to prove the claim

Visualize it with Co-premises



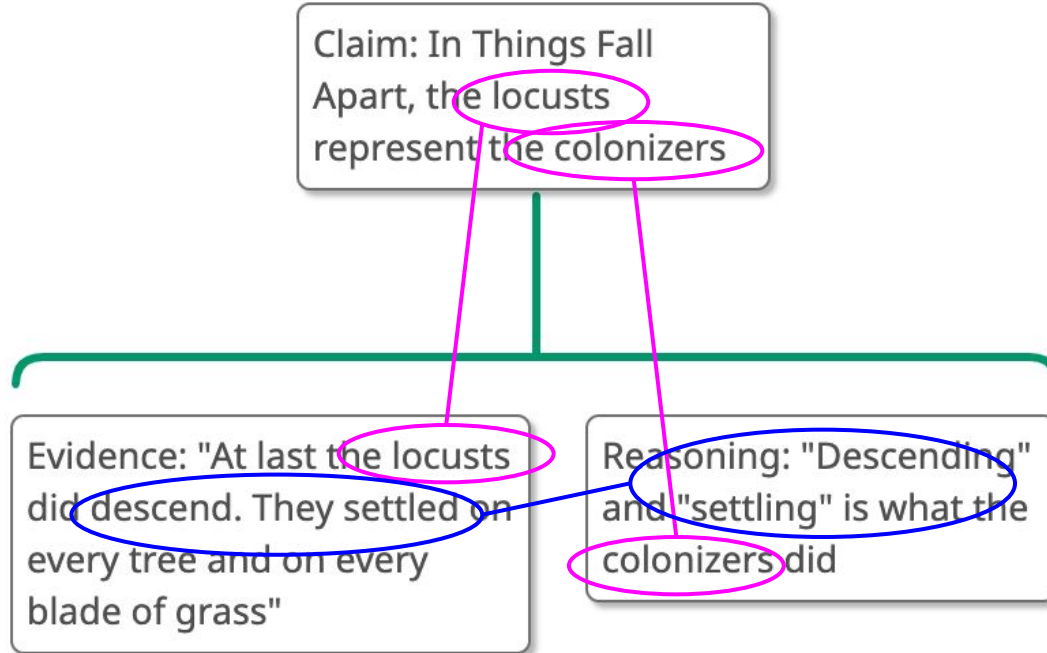


Example



Source: Sparknotes

Example



Source: Sparknotes

Practice: Fill in the Reasoning

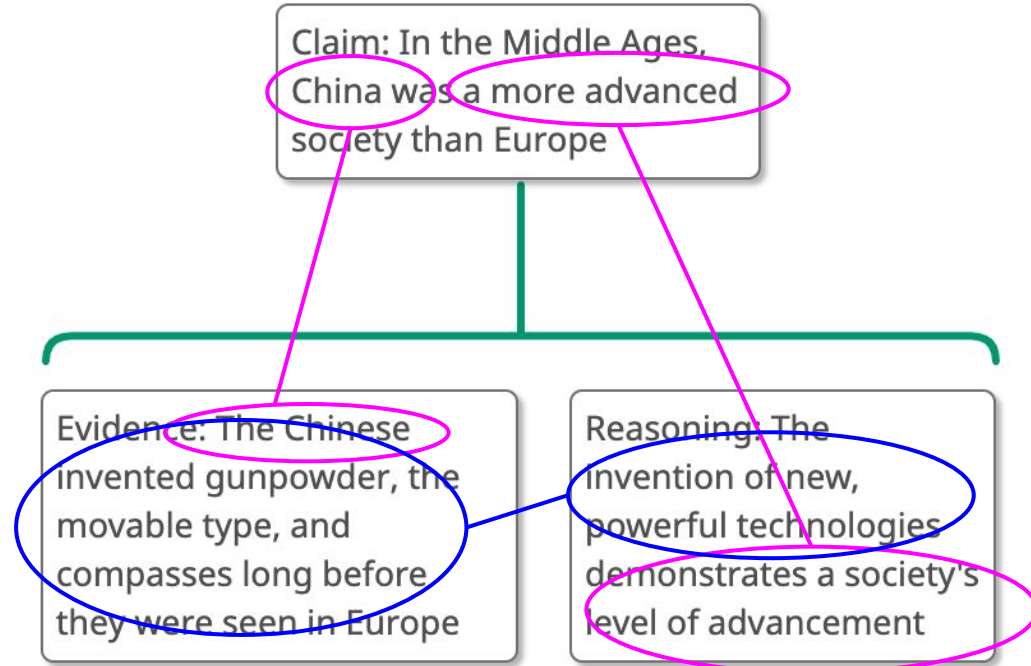
Claim: In the Middle Ages,
China was a more advanced
society than Europe

Evidence: The Chinese
invented gunpowder, the
movable type, and
compasses long before
they were seen in Europe

Reasoning:

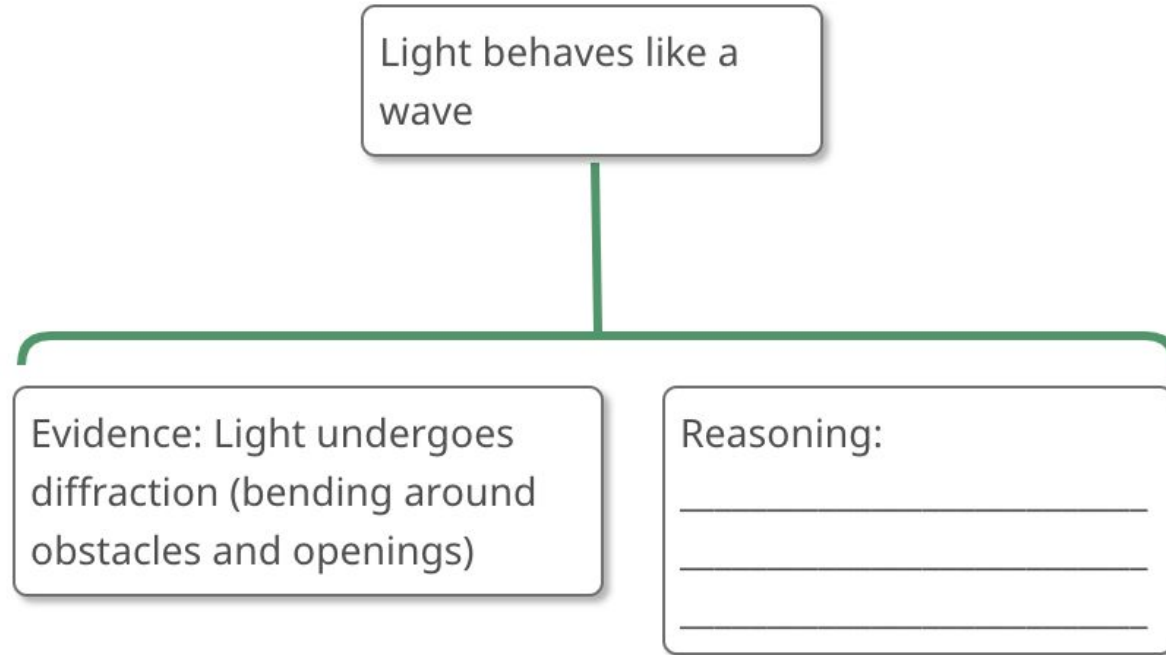
Source: USC US-China Institute

Practice: Fill in the Reasoning



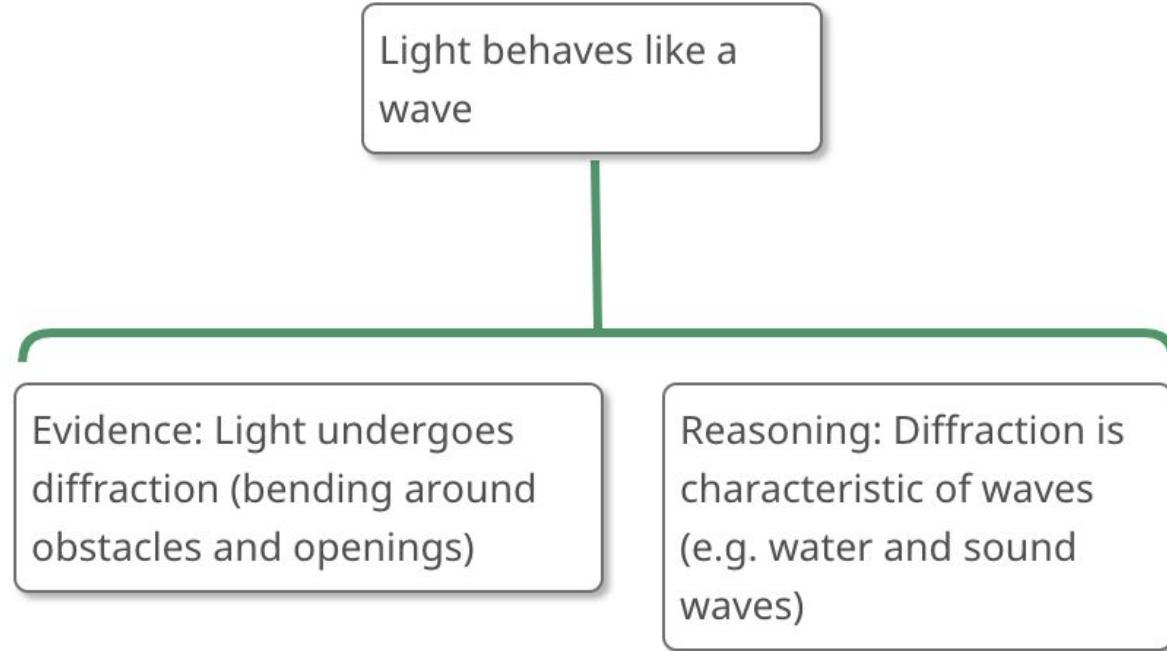
Source: USC US-China institute

Practice: Fill in the Reasoning



Source: The Physics Classroom

Practice: Fill in the Reasoning



Source: The Physics Classroom



ThinkerAnalytix

What is an Argument?





What is an Argument?

argument [ahr-gyuh-muh nt] [SHOW IPA](#) 

[SEE SYNONYMS FOR argument ON THESAURUS.COM](#)

noun

- 1 an oral disagreement; verbal opposition; contention; altercation:
a violent argument.
- 2 a discussion involving differing points of view; debate:
They were deeply involved in an argument about inflation.
- 3 a process of reasoning; series of reasons:
I couldn't follow his argument.
- 4 a statement, reason, or fact for or against a point:
This is a strong argument in favor of her theory.
- 5 an address or composition intended to convince or persuade; persuasive discourse.
- 6 subject matter; theme:
The central argument of his paper was presented clearly.

[SEE MORE](#)



What is an Argument?

Communication in which a speaker aims to **persuade** their audience to believe, feel or do something **by giving reasons**.

Arguments can illuminate and enlighten.

- ‘Argue’ from *arguere* "**make clear**, make known, prove”



Why We Argue

- To find the **truth**
- To promote **justice**
- To **connect** with others
- To **empower** individuals



Arguments Aren't Fights

In an **argument**, the speaker is genuinely trying to convince the audience by giving reasons, and they respect their audience as rational.

The speaker may also be open to changing their own mind.

In a **fight**, the speaker is just trying to get their way, and they may use other strategies besides giving reasons.

The speaker's goal is simply to win.

Argument or Fight?



The image shows a screenshot of a Twitter thread. It features four tweets. The first three tweets are from Justin Bieber, and the fourth is a reply from SQJINSU. The background of the tweets is light blue, except for the reply from SQJINSU, which has a light red background. Each tweet includes a profile picture, the user's name, the text of the tweet, and interaction icons (Favorite, Retweet, Reply).

justinbieber Justin Bieber
Some people just want attention. go sell some records bro lol
45 minutes ago ☆ Favorite ↻ Retweet ↩ Reply

justinbieber Justin Bieber
and maybe get some followers without my name in theirs before talking.
43 minutes ago ☆ Favorite ↻ Retweet ↩ Reply

SQJINSU jah-youth lopez
@justinbieber i respect you more if you say my name boy boy.. Thats what real men do.. I forgot you a lil boy...
20 minutes ago ☆ Favorite ↻ Retweet ↩ Reply

justinbieber Justin Bieber
Why would i say your name and bring you more attention? i dont need your respect. rookie. lol
5 minutes ago

Argument or Fight?



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A Letter on Justice and Open Debate

July 7, 2020

The below letter will be appearing in the Letters section of the magazine's October issue. We welcome responses at letters@harpers.org

Our cultural institutions are facing a moment of trial. Powerful protests for racial and social justice are leading to overdue demands for police reform, along with wider calls for greater equality and inclusion across our society, not least in higher education, journalism, philanthropy, and the arts. But this needed reckoning has also intensified a new set of moral attitudes and political commitments that tend to weaken our norms of open debate and toleration of differences in favor of ideological conformity. As we applaud the first development, we also raise our voices against the second. The forces of illiberalism are gaining strength throughout the world and have a powerful ally in Donald Trump, who represents a real threat to democracy. But resistance must not be allowed to harden into its own brand of dogma or coercion—which right-wing demagogues are already exploiting. The democratic inclusion we want can be achieved only if we speak out against the intolerant climate that has set in on all sides.

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Argument or Fight?



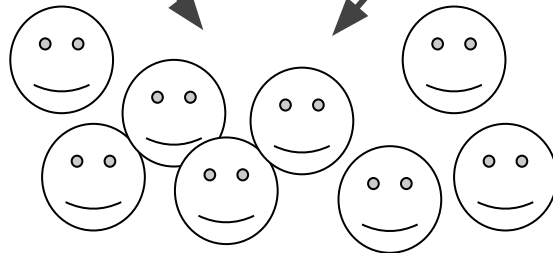
Argument or Fight?



↔
Fight

Argument

Argument





Arguments Aren't Descriptions

In an **argument**, the speaker's goal is to convince you of their main claim.

In a **description**, the speaker's goal is simply to inform or entertain you.

Examples:

- News stories
- Wikipedia pages
- Fiction
- Book summaries
- Historical accounts

Argument or Description?



iStock/Getty Images

Juneteenth is a historical celebration of the ending of slavery in the United States. On June 19th, 1865, Union soldiers landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that enslaved Black Americans were now free. This was two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863.

Argument or Description?



iStock/Getty Images

Many Americans have not been properly educated about Juneteenth, which is one reason why it should be a national holiday. Another reason is that if we want to celebrate America's "Independence Day" on July 4th, then we should also have a day to celebrate Black Americans finally gaining freedom from slavery.

Argument or Description?



iStock/Getty Images

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