

## Argumentative Writing versus Informational Writing

### Argumentative Writing:

**1) Fill in blanks using what information you know about argumentative writing.**

The purpose of argumentative writing is to \_\_\_\_\_

When beginning an argumentative essay, the author must begin with a \_\_\_\_\_ followed by \_\_\_\_\_ reasons that support the claim.

An argumentative essay must also have a \_\_\_\_\_ which addresses the arguments of the opposing side. To refute the counterclaim, an argumentative essay must have a \_\_\_\_\_ which must \_\_\_\_\_.

**2) In this section, summarize what should go in each paragraph of an argumentative essay.**

Introductory paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Body paragraph 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Body paragraph 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Body paragraph 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Counterclaim paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Concluding paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Informational Writing:

**1) Fill in blanks using what information you know about informative writing.**

The purpose of informative writing is to \_\_\_\_\_

When beginning an informative essay, the author must begin with a \_\_\_\_\_ followed by \_\_\_\_\_ subtopics that support the main idea.

**2) In this section, summarize what should go in each paragraph of an informative essay.**

Introductory paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Body paragraph 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Body paragraph 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Concluding paragraph: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight:** Hook (blue) Claim (green) Subtopics (yellow) Textual Evidence (red/pink) Elaboration (orange).

**BOX-IN:** Transitional words (black)

## Sample Informational Essay:

### Hope and The New Deal

During The Great Depression, many banks went bankrupt because people didn't have the money to pay on their loans. This resulted in many homes being resold at ridiculously low prices. Some houses were sold for \$25! The Great Depression was a devastating event in history that put America's hope to the test because so many people lost their jobs, their homes, and their peace of mind. The Great Depression devastated many Americans and left them struggling to survive, but Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the New Deal helped Americans recover and become financially stable again.

To begin, during The Great Depression, most Americans had to sacrifice even common necessities to survive financial ruin. In the story "Diggin In" by Robert Hastings he states, "Looking back, I find it amazing what we did without. A partial list would include toothpaste (we used soda), toilet paper (we used the catalog), newspaper or magazine subscriptions, soft drinks, potato chips and snacks, bakery goods except bread and an occasional dozen of doughnuts, paper clips, rubber bands, and restaurant meals." Most people just expect to have toilet paper available to them when they need it, but during this time people had to make due without it. Having snacks around is also something many people have become accustomed to today, but sadly, snacks were a rare treat during this time period. In addition, Hastings also said, "Dad had some old-fashioned shoe lasts, and he would buy stick-'em-on-soles at the dime store to patch our shoes in winter...In cold, wet weather, when he worked outdoors on WPA, he often cut strips of cardboard to stuff in the soles of his shoes to keep his feet warm." People had to make their clothing and shoes last by patching them and repurposing items that were worn out. Clothes that couldn't be worn anymore were cut up and used as dish cloths, dust rags, bandages, and towels.

Consequently, Americans turned to one man, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, for help. In 1932, he was elected President over Herbert Hoover because he promised Americans a New Deal to help end The Great Depression. After Roosevelt was elected President, Congress helped him pass many bills quickly to help the nation get back on its feet. According to pbs.org, "During the first 100 days of his presidency, a never-ending stream of bills was passed, to relieve poverty, reduce unemployment, and speed economic recovery." Some of these bills were designed to stabilize the banking industry. Others were designed to help Americans get back to work. For example, one of the New Deal's most successful programs was The Civil Conservation Corps. It helped a lot of people get work when work was hard to find. According to pbs.org, "It addressed the pressing problem of unemployment by sending three million single men from age 17 to 23 to the nations' forests to work. Living in camps in the forests, the men dug ditches, built reservoirs and planted trees." Each of the men was paid \$30 a month, and \$20 of their pay was sent home to their families. This helped the men support their families while they were away from home.

The Great Depression beat down the American people. They were economically devastated and had to make many sacrifices in order to survive. Thankfully, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected President and helped America get through The Great Depression by establishing programs like The Civil Conservation Corps, which helped Americans get jobs and stabilize the economy.