

Persuasive Words and Phrases

I am writing to...

I have heard a rumour that...

We can do without this...

How unfair!

Now...

Obviously...

We can solve this by...

I believe that...

This will cause...

A friend of mine says...

If these plans go ahead...

Do you really think.....

Is it really worth...

I am speaking to you today because...

This needs to be dealt with

It will ruin our quality of life.

No-one but a complete idiot will believe that...

Surely...

Of course...

Local people feel that...

This will mean that...

Another thing...

Just think about...

How could you (we) possibly...

What would happen if...

Do you want to be part of...



Try to use some of these words and phrases in your writing.

Remember to write in a forceful manner. You want people to agree with you!

Persuasive Writing: Signal Words

TRANSITIONAL PHRASES

INTRODUCTORY PHRASES

In my opinion	There is no doubt that	I question whether
I believe	From my point of view	I (dis) agree with
It is my belief that	It seems to me that	I maintain that

CONCLUDING PHRASES

For the reasons above	In short	In brief
As you can see	To be sure	Undoubtedly
As I have noted	Without a doubt	In any case
In other words	Obviously	Summarizing
On the whole	Unquestionably	In any event

SUPPORTING OPINIONS

First	Furthermore	Equally important	Besides	Further
Second	In addition	In the first place	Next	Again
Third	Also	Likewise	Moreover	Similarly
Finally	Last			

INTRODUCING DETAILS

For example	For instance	In support of this
In fact	As evidence	

CAUSE AND EFFECT

Since	Caused by	In effect
Because of	This results in	Brought about
Due to	Consequently	Made possible
For this reason	Accordingly	As might be expected
Therefore	As a result of	Give rise to
If...then	Leads to	Was responsible for

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Similarly	Likewise	As well as
Compared to	In the same way	Have in common
In like manner	Contrasting	All are
On the other hand	On the contrary	The same as
Although	As opposed to	Conversely
Even though	Rather than	Whether or not
	Nevertheless	In spite of

COUNTERING

I realize you	Believe	But
I understand you	Feel	Yet
Even though you	Maintain	However
Although you	Want	I doubt
Some people	Favour	I question
It may be that you	Support	Let me explain
Your idea to ___ deserves some merit	Argue	On the other hand
	State	Nevertheless

TRANSITIONS

When you want to start an example or illustration:

She loves fine clothes. For example, her prom dress cost nearly two hundred dollars.

Jim sometimes becomes bored easily. For instance, I remember something that happened last summer.

When you want to contrast one thing with another:

Mary is one of my best friends. However, she sometimes makes me angry by being late.

Jack is a good swimmer. Even so, he has never won a trophy,

I saw her once when I felt awful. Nevertheless, we had a wonderful time.

When you want to add another idea:

Tom is crazy about his motorcycle. Furthermore, he does all the maintenance on it himself.

Mr. Johnston is an excellent teacher. Moreover, he is very popular with his students.

Everybody likes Lou. In addition, he seems to like everyone he meets.

When you want to show that one thing causes another:

Sam isn't very organized. Consequently, he sometimes doesn't seem to know what he is doing.

One time he forgot his wife's birthday. As a result, she was very angry.

Al jogs three miles a day. Therefore, he is in good shape. .

When you want to summarize or generalize:

That really bothered me. But on the whole, he is a pretty good guy.

He is sensitive, warm, and considerate. In short, I love him.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Opinion Writing Checklist

		NOT YET	STARTING TO	YES!
	Structure			
Overall	I made a claim about a topic or a text and tried to support my reasons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lead	I wrote a few sentences to hook my readers, perhaps by asking a question, explaining why the topic mattered, telling a surprising fact, or giving background information.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	I stated my claim.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transitions	I used words and phrases to glue parts of my piece together. I used phrases such as <i>for example</i> , <i>another example</i> , <i>one time</i> , and <i>for instance</i> to show when I was shifting from saying reasons to giving evidence and <i>in addition to</i> , <i>also</i> , and <i>another</i> to show when I wanted to make a new point.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ending	I wrote an ending for my piece in which I restated and reflected on my claim, perhaps suggesting an action or response based on what I had written.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization	I separated sections of information using paragraphs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development			
Elaboration	I gave reasons to support my opinion. I chose the reasons to convince my readers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I included examples and information to support my reasons, perhaps from a text, my knowledge, or my life.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Craft	I made deliberate word choices to convince my readers, perhaps by emphasizing or repeating words that would make my readers feel emotions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If it felt right to do so, I chose precise details and facts to help make my points and used figurative language to draw the readers into my line of thought.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	I made choices about which evidence was best to include or not include to support my points.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I used a convincing tone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Language Conventions			
Spelling	I used what I know about word families and spelling rules to help me spell and edit. I used the word wall and dictionaries to help me when needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Punctuation	When writing long complex sentences, I used commas to make them clear and correct.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I used periods to fix my run-on sentences.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>