**Evaluating Arguments and Claims Notes**

In an **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, an author tries to convince readers to agree with his or her position on a particular issue or topic.

For example, an author might have a strong position regarding the amount of waste we throw away. The author’s position on the topic of reuse might be that people should bring their own cloth bags to stores instead of using plastic bags. The author would then develop an argument in favor of this position.

The argument is made up of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, or statements in support of the author’s position. The author uses **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to support these claims. Using reasons and evidence as support for claims in an argument helps convince readers to agree with the author’s position.

1. **Objective summary purpose and process**

**Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** is writing that you can verify through evidence and facts. If you are writing objectively, you must remain as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as possible through the use of facts, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and research. This type of writing is best used when you as a writer need to present unbiased information to an audience and then let them determine their own opinion. News reports and school textbooks often use objective writing.

**A good objective summary:**

* Focuses on the main idea and only the details that support it
* Brief
* Accurate
* Objective

**How to write objectively**

To keep your writing objective, try to follow these tips:

* *Be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instead of vague or general.* Rather than writing 'almost everyone voted for him,' write '82% of the company voted for him.'
* *Do not use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, prejudiced or exclusive language*. Rather than writing 'men and girls,' write 'men and women.' Keep both equal, and keep both genders listening to you.
* *Avoid using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ person to keep it more professional and less about you*. Rather than writing 'I believe,' try using a fact or credible source to prove your point, 'According to Smith (1999).'
* *Try not to over\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your writing.* It can help to never use words such as really, always, never, or very. These words can make your writing appear falsified or weak. Rather than writing 'the race was really close,' be more informational by writing 'the race was close enough to demand two recounts.'

Writing an objective summary involves recording the main ideas of a text while showing your understanding of the topic.

**Objective means:**

* No opinions
* No reactions
* No personal connections
* Just the facts!

**What to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in an Objective Summary**

* Do not copy any part of the original source.
* Is not long and detailed
* Does not include any opinions or reactions

**What should a complete paragraph include?**

* At least five sentences:
* Main Idea sentence
  + Most important idea of original source
* Three supporting detail sentences
  + Three details that relate to and support the main idea
* Concluding sentence
  + A summarizing sentence

1. **Author’s claim and purpose**

**What is it?**

It's something they are trying to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the reader of, something that has not been proven true.

The claim is understanding what the author/writer is trying to say.

**How do I Find it?**

Step 1: Understanding what the author/writer is trying to say.

Step 2: Look for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in the text

Step 3: Understand the writer's purpose

Step 4: Be able to identify any fallacies and rhetoric styles the writer uses You have to know what you're reading about.

1. **Review rhetoric**

Step 4: Be able to identify any fallacies and **rhetoric styles** the writer uses You have to know what you're reading about.Styles:

Ethos → Ethical

Pathos → Emotional

(Pathway to the heart)

Logos → Logical