

Examples of Argumentative Moves

Illustrating:

When illustrating, writers use specific examples from a text as evidence to support a claim or reason. The writer re-presents the text in the form of a direct borrowing (a quotation) or a paraphrase in a way that shows how this quote or paraphrase illustrates or supports the point the writer wants to argue. Illustrating involves these three “moves”:

1. **Setting up the quote:** a sentence or phrase clarifying the context of the quote and preparing the reader for what the quote will show or prove (see [Guide for Using Quotes](#)).
2. **Explaining the Quote:** After the quote a sentence which explains how or why this evidence connects to the claim. How or why does it work as grounds or basis for the claim to be believed?
3. **Connect the Dots:** What is the outcome or result if this evidence is true? What does it mean?

Whether or not these moves are completely followed, the writer should present evidence and after the evidence make clear how this evidence works as a support for the claim or reason.

The following examples come from the Issue: Is biometric technology worth the security risk?

<p>Claim: In the case of biometrics, we run the risk of privacy being taken away and compromised.</p> <p>Secondly, in a recent article from Wired Magazine, it states that “while passwords and traditional security measures are private by nature, biometrics are inherently public.” We can hold a password in our memory, while biometrics can be seen as we stroll down the mall or sidewalk, making it easy for any common thief or the government to steal our biometric information. If we move towards biometrics our freedom and privacy will no longer exist under the government.</p>	<p>Claim</p> <p>Set up the quote</p> <p>Explain the quote</p> <p>Connect the dots</p>
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<p>Claim: Although the risk of biometric technology exists, the use of biometrics is worth the security risk.</p> <p>Furthermore, biometric technology contains a unique system that incorporates and responds only to what it can identify at an accessible measure. As Jared Linzon who published an article on NPR Texas Public Radio states, “Users would be able to pick and choose who and what is allowed to identify them.” Unlike older methods of security, there is a choice in what security measure is taken in regards to accessing private and protected accounts or files and records. The freedom to choose can satisfy the worry of people wanting to keep their private information safe by knowing exactly what they’re using.</p>	<p>Claim</p> <p>Set up the quote</p> <p>Explain the quote</p> <p>Connect the dots</p>
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Authorizing:

When authorizing, writers refer to an “expert” to support a claim. Typically, as writers forward or present information from an expert as supporting evidence (“illustrating”—see above), they set this information up by clarifying the author and information about the author’s credibility. Also, the source may be authorized by presenting contextual information such as where the information came from or when it was published.

<p>Georgetown University professor of Law Alvaro Bedoya says with such a system it’s “not hard to imagine a future where someone...</p>	Information about the source’s credibility
<p>According to the Bio-metric News Portal which is a website that is dedicated to providing security professionals with the latest information about biometric, “if a set of biometric data is compromised, it is compromised forever.”</p>	Information about the source’s credibility

Countering:

Countering means “pushing back” against the text in some way (e.g., disagree with it, challenge something it says, or interpret it differently). Countering means not simply negating, but suggesting a different way of thinking. Countering typically involves three moves.

1. First, writers present an argument in opposition to their claim.
2. Second, writers present one bit of evidence supporting that claim (and even connect that evidence to the opposing claim).
3. Third, writers counter that opposing argument by presenting evidence (which is connected to the writers’ claim)

<p>An opposing argument that a man named Michael Boczek makes, who is the president of Descartes Biometrics (a company that specializes in mobile ear detection apps) claims that his way of biometric security is "stable and enduring." He argues that because the ear changes very little over the course of someone’s life that makes it secure to use. Although it is true that the ear changes very little throughout someone’s life, there are still risks to using any type of biometric security. No matter which part of the body you decide to use for biometric security, there will still be risks that you cannot avoid. According to Woodrow Hartzog, an associate Professor of Law at Samford University, "if biometrics are compromised, You're done. You can't get another ear." Simply what he was saying is that once the security system is compromised everything you use for biometrics is compromised as well. The consequences of this compromise are permanent since you can’t change your biometric information.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Present an opposing argument2. Include evidence supporting that argument3. Counter the opposing argument, presenting evidence to support the writer’s claim --explain the quote --connect the dots
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