Lesson 2: Argumentation

Table of contents

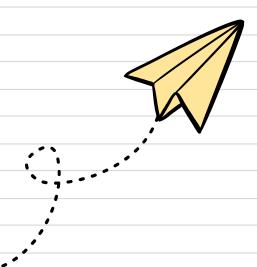
O1 Purpose

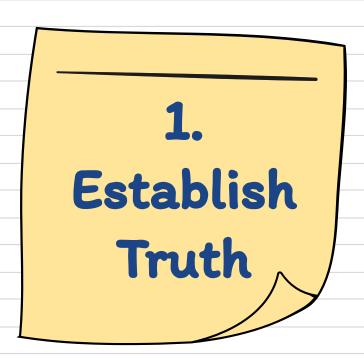
O2 Ingredients of an Argument

O3 Activity

WHAT IS IT!

AN ARGUMENT TRIES TO DO A COUPLE THINGS





Establishing Truth

Arguments attempt to identify what is true and identify what is false using logic.

There are many different kinds of arguments, but all of them have Premises and Conclusions.

Establishing Truth

Premises are ideas or statements that are very basic and intuitive. Most people should be willing to accept a premise as true for it to be a strong premise.

"Humans need food and water to survive" = Strong

"Anyone can access food and water by working hard." = Weak

Establishing Truth

Conclusions are less obvious ideas that rely on certain premises to be true. A strong conclusion has a very close and clear connection to its premises. It's premises are also all strong.

"Humans need food and water to live"

"Food and water costs money"

"You need to be employed to earn money"

"The government must represent the people"

"Therefore, it is important that the government prevents unemployment so people can afford food and water"

Premises

Conclusion

Persuade Someone

Persuading Someone

Apart from identifying the truth, arguments also try to **persuade** other people to think something is true as well.

This is very important in debate, because in order to win you need to persuade your **judges**.

Arguments are persuasive when they are structured, clear, and logically sound.



HOW CAN I MAKEA PERSUASIVE ARGUMENT?





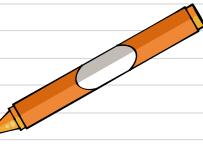


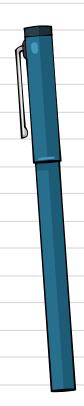
INGREDIENTS OF AN ARGUMENT



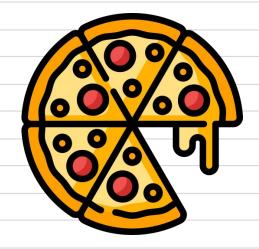
pizza!



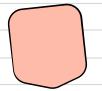




Arguments are like pizzas...







Ingredient 1: Claim

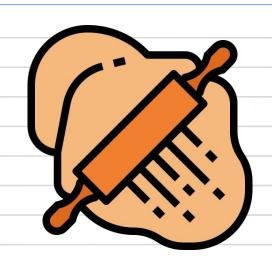
Basic idea that you're claiming as true

Clear, concise, first thing you say

An argument without a claim is like a movie without a trailer. You

have no clue what you are in for.

In debate, hand everything to your judge on a **silver platter**.



A claim is like the dough of a pizza. Everything else sits on it. It's the base.

Ingredient 2: Framing

- Basic truths and background info that needs to be established
- Some frames are very **obvious** and agreeable, some are **less**
 - obvious and need more
 - justification
 - Set up the world so your
 - mechanisms to work.
 - Set the stage for why your argument is **important**



Framing is like the sauce of a pizza. Its under everything but it prevents the pizza from being dry. Framing prevents your argument from from being irrelevant.

Ingredient 3: Mechanism

- Reasons behind your arguments
- Should **explain** why _____ is

true given the framing of the

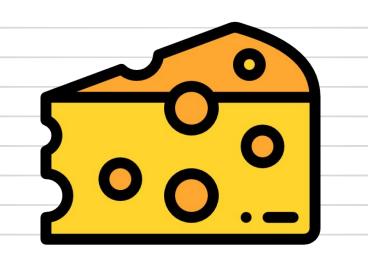
world

- Bridges the framing to the
 - impact
- The best mechanisms follow

CAUSE and **EFFECT** structures

Cause: pizza is yummy

Effect: lots of people buy pizza



Mechanisms are the cheese on a pizza. It holds everything together and connects the sauce to the toppings. Without cheese the pizza would fall apart.

Ingredient 4: Impact

Real life **implications** of your argument

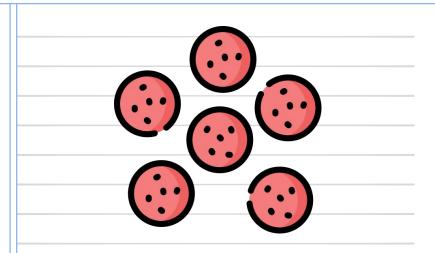
Who or What is affected?

Arguments without a clear impact are **meaningless**.

Eg.

Argument: smoking is bad for health so we should ban it.

Impact: Less people die from smoking.



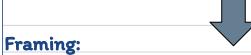
Impacts are the toppings of the pizza. It is the most exciting part that people care about the most and make the pizza stand out. Without toppings the pizza is plain with no flavour.

Example: THW pay teachers based on classroom performance.

Argument that Supports:

Claim:

 Teachers will be encouraged to teach the best they can when it determines their salary, and this will lead to better education for students



- The most important job of the education system is to provide a good quality of education to students so they are prepared to live in society
- Almost everyone depends on money to live and would like to have more of it if they could

Impact:

 Students receive a better education which better prepares them for jobs, politics, finances, etc.

Mechanism:

- Since teachers need money to live, they w work hard to maximize their class's performance so they have a sufficient income.
 - This will have to mean students receive a better education that allows for their goo performance.

