

# TOULMIN ARGUMENT PRACTICE

Think of a debatable topic of your choosing and write a claim regarding that topic: You must come up with four reasons in defense of that claim and you must be able to explain the warrants for each reason. You should construct at least one reason that needs qualification, and two reasons that you can give evidence in support of.

**Claim:**

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*Reasons: identify four reasons in support of your claim under each reason explain the warrant for/assumption inherent to that claim.*



### **COMMON WARRANTS: (GASCAP)**

1. **Argument based on Generalization:** Assumes that what is true of a well-chosen sample is likely to hold for a larger group or population.
2. **Argument based on Analogy**
3. **Argument via Sign/Clue:** The notion that certain types of evidence are symptomatic of some wider principle or outcome. For example, smoke is often considered a sign for fire. Some people think high SAT scores are a sign a person is smart and will do well in college.
4. **Causal Argument:** Arguing that a given occurrence or event is the result of, or is effected by, factor X.
5. **Argument from Authority:** Does person X or text X constitute an authoritative source on the issue in question?
6. **Argument from Principle:** Locating a principle that is widely regarded as valid and showing that a situation exists in which this principle applies.