

1. To what opportunity for change is the writer responding?
2. Who might be the rhetorical audience?
3. What might be the writer's purpose?
4. How does the writer establish the importance of the topic? What suggestions do you have for improving the introduction?
5. Note the writer's thesis statement. If you cannot locate a thesis statement, what explicit thesis statement might work for this position argument, or claim?
6. Note the assertions the writer makes to support the thesis. Are they presented in chronological, spatial, or emphatic order? How might you reorder some of the assertions for overall effectiveness?
7. If you cannot locate a series of assertions, what assertions could be made to support the thesis statement?
8. Note the supporting reasons that the writer uses to reinforce his or her assertions. What specific evidence and examples (anecdotes, statistics, research findings, details, etc.) does the writer use for support?
9. How does the writer establish ethos? Logos? Pathos? How could the writer strengthen these appeals? (See [questions #6, 7 and 8.](#))
10. Where does the writer acknowledge other points of view? Where does the writer accept the validity of another point? Might doing so strengthen the writer's credibility?
11. What did you learn from the conclusion that you did not already know after reading the introduction and the body? What information does the writer want you to take away from the argument? Does the writer attempt to change your attitude, action, or opinion?
12. Which section of the argument did you most enjoy? Why?