Argumentative vs Informative Essays

Argumentative essays and informative essays are two types of essays that deal with facts and information. The main difference between argumentative essays and informative essays is that argumentative essays try to convince the reader to accept the writer’s point of view, while informative essays provide information and explanations in a straightforward manner to the readers.

Informative Essays

Informative essays are a type of writing that explains a certain issue or a topic. An informative writer should always maintain an objective, neutral tone throughout the essay, or they shouldn’t try to argue one side over another. The author of an informative essay is kind of like a reporter at a newspaper: only there to state the facts, not to offer any sort of opinion. In this type of an essay, the writer should refrain from pointing out his personal ideas and beliefs. For SAGE testing, an informative essay is three paragraphs long: one introduction paragraph containing the central idea of the paper, one body paragraph that contains enough facts and information to cover the topic, and a conclusion that briefly summarizes all the points explained in the body. Real writers use as many body paragraphs as they need to explain the topic they’re writing about, but for the purposes of SAGE testing, stick to just one body paragraph.

Argumentative Essays

An argumentative essay is a type of writing in which the writer tries to convince his audience that his opinion is valid. An argumentative essay contains a combination of facts and writer’s personal ideas. A writer preparing to start an argumentative essay has to do a lot of research and gather evidence to prove and defend his point. An argumentative essay is biased and subjective, although the writer has to be aware of the opposing views on the subject. This type of essay appeals to the logic and the reasoning. For SAGE testing, an argumentative essay is supposed to be 4-5 paragraphs long: one introduction paragraph containing the author’s claim or main argument, two or three body paragraphs or sub points that support and illustrate the author’s argument, and a concluding paragraph that briefly summarizes all the points explained in the body. Real writers use as many body paragraphs as they need to explain the topic they’re writing about, but for the purposes of SAGE testing, stick to two or three body paragraphs.

Difference Between Argumentative and Informative Essays

The main difference between argumentative and informative essays is that an informative essay contains only information to explain a topic, whereas an argumentative essay contains statistics, facts and writer’s personal ideas. Another vital difference between argumentative and informative essays is that an informative essay always gives a balanced account of a subject while an argumentative essay may be biased and subjective. It should be also noted that an argumentative essay can contain elements of an informative essay, as argumentative essays also state explanations and information. Another
central difference between argumentative and informative essay can be noted in the opening sentence in the essay; the opening sentence in an argumentative essay states the argument, and the opening line in an informative essay introduces the topic.