

Persuasive Writing: The Great School Project

Learning objective: To structure a persuasive argument using formal language, rhetorical questions, and emotive vocabulary.

Use this scaffold to help Max the monkey persuade the school council to build an outdoor classroom. Follow the structure to ensure your argument is logical, convincing, and polite.

Imagine a classroom where the ceiling is the sky and the desks are surrounded by rustling leaves.

Word bank: Furthermore · In addition · Undoubtedly · It is essential that · Consequently · Without a shadow of a doubt · Have you ever considered? · Imagine · Therefore

1. Introduction: State your main point clearly. Start with: 'I am writing to express my strong support for...' (2 marks)

2. Point One: Describe a benefit for learning. Start with: 'Firstly, an outdoor space would allow students to...' (2 marks)

3. Point Two: Add a second benefit using a connective. Start with: 'Furthermore, it is clear that being in nature helps us to...' (2 marks)

4. Addressing the Counter-Argument: Acknowledge a potential worry (e.g., the weather) and solve it. Start with: 'Whilst some might worry about the weather, we could easily...' (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise your argument and end with a call to action. Start with: 'In conclusion, I urge the council to approve this project because...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a real-life local issue in your community. Write one paragraph using a rhetorical question to persuade your local representative to make a change.