Claim-Data-Warrant

How to create a persuasive argument using text based evidence.

What is
Claim – Data – Warrant?

1. Claim, data, warrant (C-D-W) is a formal and analytical writing style.
2. C-D-W helps prove your thoughts using evidence.
3. It can be used for answering open response questions, discussion questions, or writing essays.
4. You can use it in any class.

What is a CLAIM?

1. A claim is your opinion about the subject
2. A claim is what you believe to be true.
3. A claim is your answer to the question.
4. A claim is often the topic sentence of a paragraph.
5. A claim is similar to a hypothesis.

What is a GOOD CLAIM?

» A good claim is not obvious.

» *Why bother proving a point no one could disagree with?*

What is a GOOD CLAIM?

» A good claim is engaging.

» *Consider your audience's attention span and make interesting claims.*
» *Point out new ideas; teach the reader something new.*

What is a GOOD CLAIM?

» A good claim is not overly vague.

» *Attacking enormous issues whole leads only to generalizations and vague assertions.*

» *Refrain from making a book-size claim.*

What is a GOOD CLAIM?

» A good claim is logical.

» *It develops from a reasonable consideration of evidence.*

» *(Note: this does not mean that evidence has only one logical interpretation. Reasonable people often disagree.)*

What is a GOOD CLAIM?

» A good claim is debatable.

» *Claims that are purely factual and claims that are purely opinion fail this requirement.*

What is a GOOD CLAIM?

» A good claim is typically hypotactic.

» *It uses subordinate clauses.*

» *Simple sentences are rarely complex enough to do justice to a well-thought out opinion.*

Good or Bad Claim?

» Teachers are faced with many problems today.

Good or Bad Claim?

» Polls show that today more minorities own businesses than ever before.

Good or Bad Claim?

» We must strive with every ounce of our national vigor to ensure that America has a bright future and that truth and justice will abide with us forever.

Good or Bad Claim?

» Ophelia is my favorite character in Hamlet because she is the most interesting.

Good or Bad Claim?

» If we can put humans on the moon, we can find a cure for the common cold.

Good or Bad Claim?

» Though they seem mere entertainment, Hollywood movies are actually responsible for reinforcing cultural stereotypes in America.

What is DATA?

1. The evidence or the facts you use to support your claim.
2. Examples to support your claim
3. Quotes from the text to support the claim.
4. References to the text supporting your claim.
5. Statistics supporting the claim
6. Content specific vocabulary that supports the claim.

What is a WARRANT?

1. An explanation of how the data supports or proves your claim.
2. An explanation of how the example, statistic, quote or reference supports the claim
3. An explanation of the significance of the data
4. Usually three to five sentences long

What is a GOOD WARANT?

1. A good warrant will be a reasonable interpretation of facts
2. A good warrant will not make illogical interpretive leaps.
3. A good warrant will not assume more than the evidence supports.
4. A good warrant will consider and respond to counter-arguments.

Create a Warrant

» **Claim**: President Clinton should be applauded for his policies on minority owned businesses.

» **Data**: The NYT reports that more minorities own businesses today than ever before.

» **Warrant**:

Create a Warrant

» **Claim**: Any American can grow up to be president.

» **Data:** Bill Clinton came from a poor town in a poor state to be president.

» **Warrant**:

Create a Warrant

» **Claim**: The school system itself promotes racial tension in its effort to provide America's children with a good education.

» **Data**: There's a lot of racial tension in many schools these days.

» **Warrant**:

Attack the Warrant

» Now, go back and attack the warrants you just formulated.

» How might the data be interpreted in ways that do not support the claims?

Attack the Warrants

» **1. Counter-warrant**:

» **2. Counter-warrant**:

» **3. Counter-warrant**:

Example: Claim

» **Claim** (pink)
» UGHS has an excellent offering of electives.

Example: Data

» **Data**: (green)

» UGHS electives include art, band, choir, sports, Spanish, and Advanced Academy. UGHS also offers a variety after school activities in which students may elect to participate.

Example: Warrant

» **Warrant**: (yellow)
» Art, band, and choir allow students to express their creativity. Sports allow students to express their physical talents and become successful sportsmen and competitors. Advanced Academy offers a variety of current business and graphic skills.

Example

UGHS has an excellent offering of electives. UGHS electives include art, band, choir, sports, Spanish, and Advanced Academy. UGHS also offers a variety after school activities in which students may elect to participate. Art, band, and choir allow students to express their creativity. Sports allow students to express their physical talents and become successful sportsmen and competitors. Advanced Academy offers a variety of current business and graphic skills.
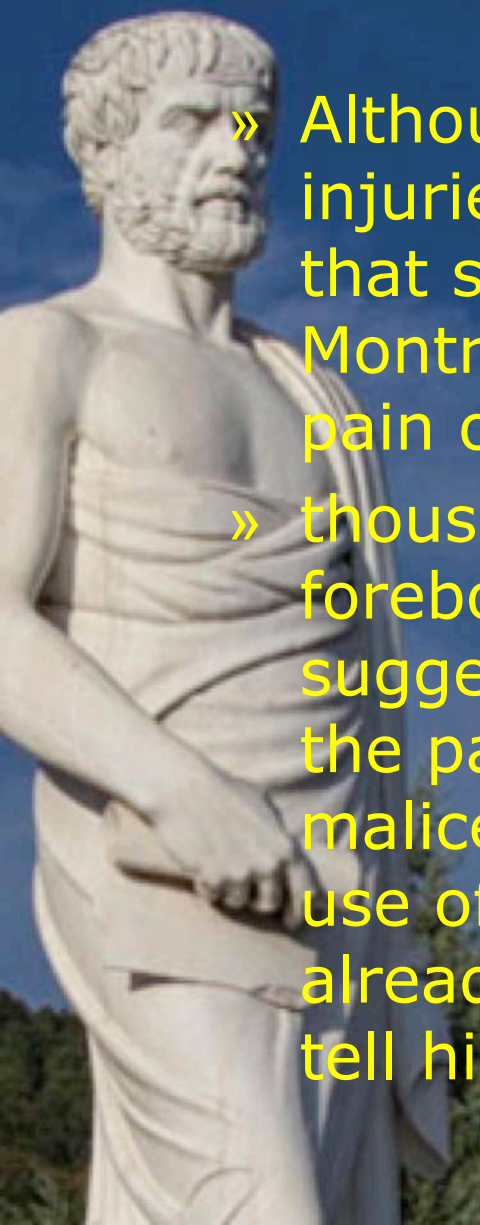
CLAIM

» In Edgar Allen Poe"s "Cask of Amontillado," the ending is foreshadowed both by Montresor's malice toward Fortunato and the obviously elaborate scheme that unfolds in the plot.

DATA

» Montresor reveals the malice he feels toward Fortunato when he says, "The thousand injuries of Fortunato I had borne as best I could, but when he ventured upon insult I vowed revenge" (Poe 5).

WARRANT

» Although we have no idea from the plot what injuries Montresor has experienced, it is clear that some insult has occurred and that Montresor means to repay Fortunato for the pain of the insult as well as "the

» thousand injuries" he has suffered. The foreboding sound of "vowed revenge" clearly suggests a deep malice. However, the use of the past tense in the opening also allows the malice to foreshadow the ending, since the use of past tense suggests that the ending has already occurred before the narrator begins to tell his story.