

FIVE STEP REFUTATION THE “ASTER” WAY

Remember: The refutation is paragraph number FOUR in your persuasive essay. The purpose of a refutation is to expose the weaknesses in the opposing viewpoints. You must do this without being inflammatory. It is fun and effective to crush them with your logic instead of saying something silly like, “They’re stupid!”

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:

Admit that there is another side to the issue:

Admittedly,

On the other hand,

It has been argued that...

State the opposition argument (choose from your “T” chart)

Admittedly, some people (feel, think, believe) that...

Use WEAK VERBS for the opposition (feel, think, believe)

1-3 sentences (give some detail)

Turn the Focus:

“This argument has no merit, however.”

(a kind way of saying, “It’s stupid and weak.”)

Explain the weakness in the argument

2-3 sentences

Restate your focus: Final sentence begins with

“Thus,” or “Therefore,”

It’s not “faster”, it’s

A – S – T – E – R

admit...state...turn...explain...restate

