

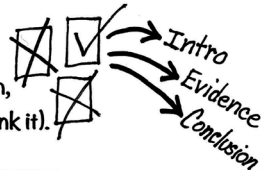



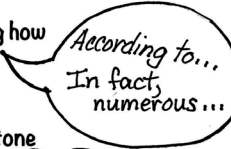
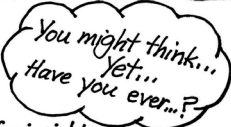
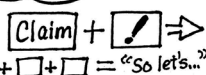
## How to Write a Position Paper

(A position paper is similar to an argument essay but adds more context (information, connections) for the audience and is particularly fair to other points of view.)



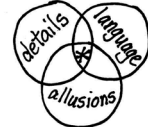

Rehearsal

- ✓ Use your position as a lens to gather, sort, and rank evidence. 
- ✓ Rethink your position, then defend it using reasoning and evidence. 
- ✓ Choose your strongest argument and plan how to argue it. Then plan the introduction, conclusion, and the evidence (weigh and rank it). 

Drafting

- ✓ Write an introduction/lead that's strategic (*be choosy*), fair (*consider other sides*), and unique (*your ideas*). 
- ✓ Angle your evidence—explain it fully, showing how it supports the point you want to make. 
- ✓ Choose words deliberately to set the desired tone and support your ideas. 
- ✓ Write a great conclusion (*restate claim and its significance, offer insights or connections, suggest future thinking/actions*).   
 $\square + \square + \square = \text{"So let's..."}$

Revision

- ✓ Acknowledge the strengths and limitations of your position ~ qualify the conditions under which your argument holds true. 
- ✓ Reconsider if your evidence is the most relevant, significant and convincing ~ then fully explain how it is pertinent to your claim. 
- ✓ Attend to craft such as layering details, using figurative language, making allusions. 
- ✓ Research opposing viewpoints ~ be fair to alternate points of view. 
- ✓ Envision structural choices as sweeping revision ~ map your intentions. 