

Developing a Perfect Persuasive Paragraph: C.E.I.

A simple strategy that can help you to develop a perfect persuasive paragraph is C.E.I.:

CLAIM: A statement which expresses a single, arguable idea

CONTEXT: Background information or context that the reader will need to understand the evidence.

EVIDENCE: Specific examples or details that support the claim

INTERPRETATION: The significance of both the claim and the evidence.

Sample Student Paragraph:

S1: Claim	Schools must acknowledge the fact that, although technology is the “modern” way of learning, technological advances create a deficiency of valuable life skills.
S2: Expand Claim / Provide Context for Evidence	As a result of technology, many children have actually grown less intelligent and cultured; in addition, the technology they engage in deprives them of learning via “hands-on” methods.
S3: Evidence (T.I.E.S.)	According to Yale professor David Gelertner, “our skill-free children are overwhelmed with information, even without the Internet” (par. 5).
S4 – S7: Interpretation	The rise of technology has not improved education intelligence, or schools in general. Children who spend all of their time simply sitting around playing video games develop a lack of skills. Moreover, this loss of skills results in the inability to perform tasks that students a hundred years ago (without the benefit of technology) could do perfectly well, such as rudimentary tasks like the proper way to clean and sort laundry. Simply because children have the opportunity to utilize technology does not mean that it is beneficial.

Here it is as it would appear in your essay:

Schools must acknowledge the fact that, although technology is the “modern” way of learning, technological advances create a deficiency of valuable life skills. As a result of technology, many children have actually grown less intelligent and cultured; in addition, the technology they engage in deprives them of learning via “hands-on” methods. According to Yale professor David Gelertner, “our skill-free children are overwhelmed with information, even without the Internet” (par. 5). The rise of technology has not improved education intelligence, or schools in general. Children who spend all of their time simply sitting around playing video games develop a lack of skills. Moreover, this loss of skills results in the inability to perform tasks that students a hundred years ago (without the benefit of technology) could do perfectly well, such as rudimentary tasks like the proper way to clean and sort laundry. Simply because children have the opportunity to utilize technology does not mean that it is beneficial.