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### Advanced Making a Formal Argument – An Apple a Day

Directions: Argue for or against the statement below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Statement: An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Example Answer: I agree with the statement above; eating piece of fruit each day is the most important step we can take toward good health. The vitamins in a piece of fruit can stave off the common cold and improve your eyesight. The fructose in a piece of fruit can increase alertness and provide enzymes that aid digestion. On the other hand, an apple, no matter how nutritious, cannot keep you from falling down and breaking a bone. So it doesn't actually keep the doctor away, but it makes the doctor visits less frequent.

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### Advanced Making a Formal Argument – Too Many Cooks

Directions: Argue for or against the statement below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must:

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Statement: Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Example Answer: I disagree with the statement above; I think a better product results when more people have input into its design. After all, some of our greatest inventions have come as a result of a collaborative effort. For example, the production of a car is the result of the collaborative expertise of mechanics, engineers, chemists, metallurgists, and even sales people who have contact with the buyers.


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## Making a Formal Argument – \$5 or a Lottery Ticket

Directions: Answer the question below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Question: Which is better: five dollars or a lottery ticket?

Example Answer: A lottery ticket is better than five dollars. You cannot buy much with five dollars. For example, you can buy a hamburger for five dollars. A hamburger may be nice for now, but you will be hungry again later. On the other hand, a lottery ticket may be worth millions of dollars; enough to feed you for the rest of your life.

Rough Draft:		
<u>Final Draft:</u>		

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# Making a Formal Argument – "The Most Important Word"

Directions: Answer the question below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Question: What is the most important word in the English language?

Example Answer: The most important word in the English language is "friend". This word is important because it is used to describe the connection between two people when they share respect or affection. Respect and affection must be shared between people in order for us to survive and live in harmony. Also, respect and affection is a great feeling to have, so it must be important to share.

Rough Draft:		
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### Intermediate Making a Formal Argument – Giving and Receiving

Directions: Argue for or against the statement below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must:

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Statement: It is better to give than to receive.

Example Answer: I agree with the statement above. Studies have shown that acts of selflessness reduce stress and increase self—confidence. People who care for the needs of other people do not focus as much on the things they lack. And people who are selfless are more involved socially, which is good for their health and mood. On the other hand, sometimes it is good to receive as well. If you are sick, sad, or in need, it is comforting to have the support of friends. It is good to both give to and receive from people who are important to you.

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### Intermediate Making a Formal Argument – Practice

Directions: Argue for or against the statement below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must:

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Statement: Practice makes perfect.

Example Answer: I agree with the statement above. Research has shown that practice is more important that talent in gaining expertise. People with just a little natural talent can gain mastery with daily practice and the desire to improve their performance. For example, by practicing writing everyday, there is a good chance that your writing will drastically improve. However, all the practice in the world cannot instill passion for an activity a person doesn't like. So, while practice can improve performance, it cannot replace the desire to do well.

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### Intermediate Making a Formal Argument – "Cat, Star, or Book"

Directions: Answer the question below using a formal argument. In a formal argument, you must

- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

Question: If you could be a cat, star, or book, which would you be?

Example Answer: If I could be a cat, star, or book, I would be a cat. Cats are beautiful and agile. They can climb trees, run fast, and jump very high. They also have very good vision. Some cats are able to see very small object miles away.

Final Draft:	