

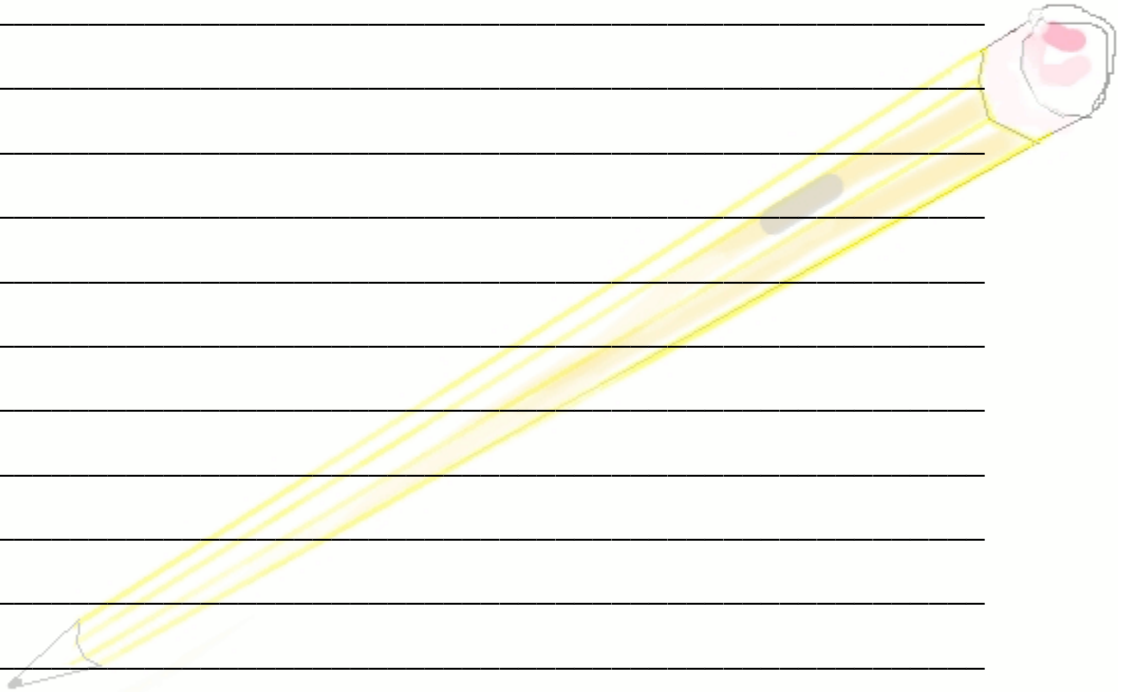
Advanced Making a Formal Argument – Too Many Cooks

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.



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

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

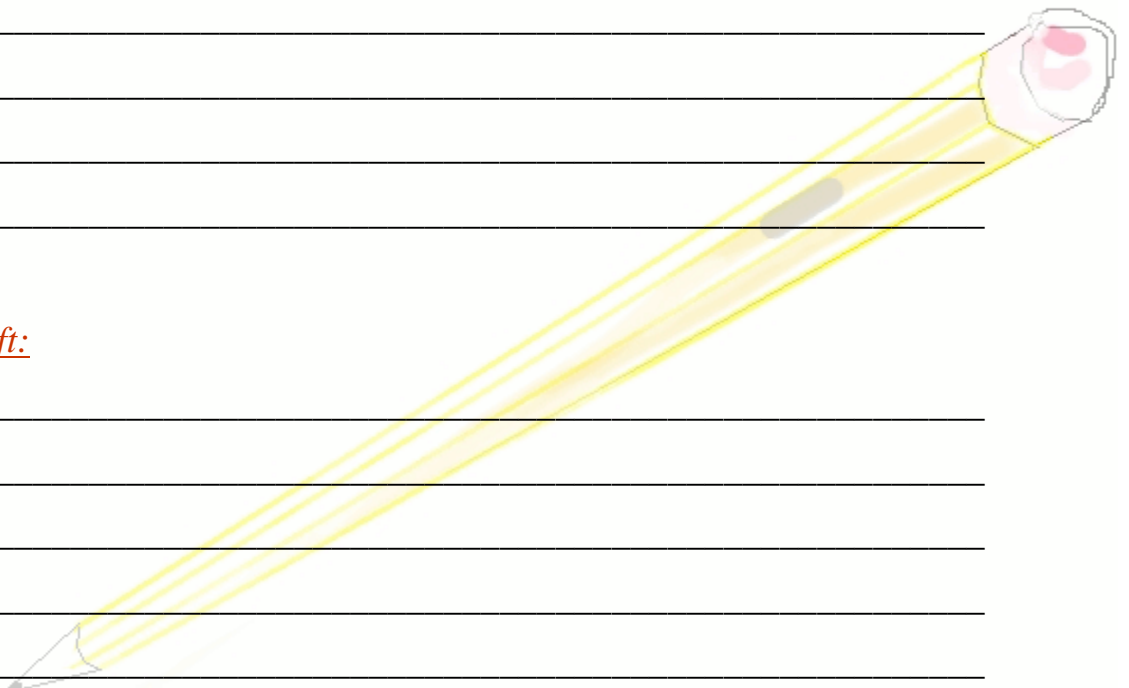
- 1) State your position.
- 2) Provide point(s) that support your position.
- 3) Support each point with specific reasons/examples.

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:

Final Draft:



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:

Final Draft:



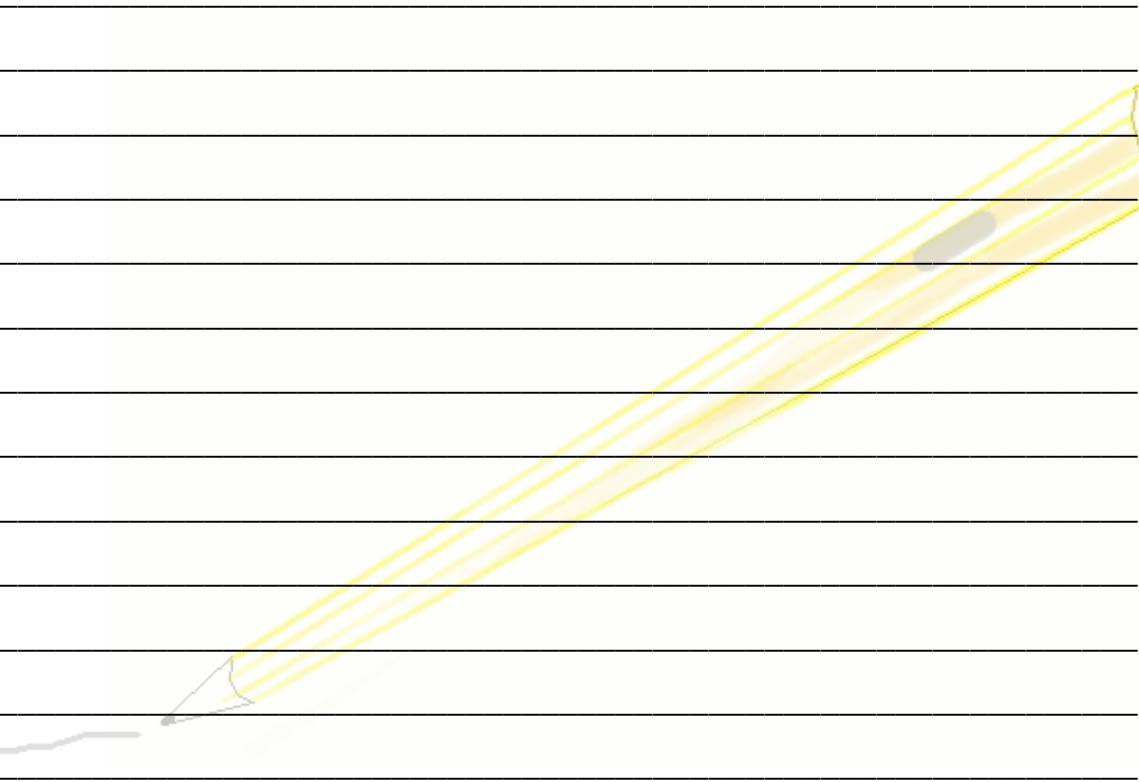
Intermediate Making a Formal Argument – Practice

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 than 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.



A series of 15 horizontal lines intended for the student to write their formal argument. A large, stylized pencil is drawn diagonally across the lines, pointing from the top right towards the bottom left. The pencil has a pink eraser and a yellow body with a silver ferrule. The lines are spaced evenly and extend across the width of the page.

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.

Rough Draft:

Final Draft:

