



English II: Writing: Module 4: Lesson 2: Section 5

Writing the Persuasive Essay: Organizing Structure

Handout: Developing Your Topic

Instructions: Read the following quotation prompt. Decide if you agree or disagree with the quotation. Then plan an essay by filling in each box below. You need to persuade readers to agree or disagree with your point of view. When you are finished, mouse over the “sample response” button for one student’s interpretation of the quote.

Only the weak are cruel. Gentleness can only be expected of the strong.

—Leo Buscaglia

Topic

Essential Question

Position

Purpose

Audience

Context

Thesis Statement

Click for a
sample
response



Sample Response: There are many different interpretations of this short quotation. Here is one possible response to the quote.

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