**Argument Paragraph Pre-Writing**

1. Begin with **evidence**. Write down everything you know about the topic based on the article. (facts, details, reasons, anecdotes, experience, observations) **HIGHLIGHT YOUR 4 BEST PIECES OF EVIDENCE.**

***Notice which pieces of your evidence are factual and which are anecdotal.***  *You might need to balance this out later in the drafting process.*

1. Examine your evidence.
   1. What does the evidence tell you? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. What is your **opinion** about this topic based on the evidence you recorded?

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* 1. Write a **draft of your debatable claim below**.

**Debatable Claim**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Now focus on the WHY of your argument. This means you’ll be pre-writing for **commentary**—an element of argument you’ll learn more about in a later lesson. Answer these questions below.
   1. What is the topic?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. What does the evidence tell us?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* 1. Why do you feel this way? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  2. What might someone else think (counter claim?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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