



## Introduction:

Below are the five essential parts of an argument. They are the same in all three structures (Classical, Rogerian, Toulon), but they are used in different order.

## 5 Mains Parts of a Classical Argument:

The **introduction**, which warms up the audience, establishes goodwill and rapport with the readers, and announces the general theme or *thesis* of the argument.

The **narration**, which summarizes relevant [background material](#), provides any information the audience needs to know about the environment and circumstances that produce the argument, and set up the stakes—what’s at risk in this question.

The **confirmation**, which lays out in a logical order (usually strongest to weakest or most obvious to most subtle) the [claims](#) that support the [thesis](#), providing evidence for each claim.

The **refutation and concession**, which looks at opposing viewpoints to the writer’s claims, [anticipating objections](#) from the audience, and allowing as much of the opposing viewpoints as possible without weakening the thesis.

The **summation**, which provides a strong conclusion, amplifying the force of the argument, and showing the readers that this solution is the best at meeting the circumstances.

Each of these paragraphs represents a "chunk" of the paper, which might be one or more paragraphs; for instance, the *introduction* and *narration* sections might be combined into one chunk, while the *confirmation* and *concession* sections will probably be several paragraphs each

## What You Need to Accomplish:

The [introduction](#) has three jobs:

1. To capture your audience’s interest
2. Establish their perception of you as a writer
3. Set out your point of view for the argument.

You might capture interest by using a focusing anecdote or quotation, a shocking statistic, or by restating a problem or controversy in a new way. You could also begin with an analogy or parallel case, a personal statement, or (if you genuinely believe your audience will agree with you) a bold statement of your thesis. The

language choices (*formal, didactic, conversational*) you use will convey a great deal about your image to your audience.

The ***narration***:

1. Establish a context for your argument.
2. Explain the situation to which your argument is responding,
3. Give relevant background information, history, statistics that affect it.

By the end of this chunk, the readers should understand what's at stake in this argument—the issues and alternatives the community faces—so that they can evaluate your claims fairly.

The ***confirmation*** section allows you to explain:

1. Why you believe in your thesis.
2. Uses several ***supporting*** claims individually
3. Each one brings in facts, examples, testimony, definitions, and so on.

It's important that you explain why the evidence for each claim supports it and the larger thesis; this builds a *chain of reasoning* in support of your argument.

The ***refutation and concession***:

1. Who thinks your argument won't work?
2. Show your audience that you have anticipated potential opposition and objections, and have an answer for them,
3. If there are places where you agree with your opposition, *conceding* their points creates goodwill and respect without weakening your thesis.

The ***conclusion***:

1. Return to the narration and the issues
2. Remind your readers what's at stake here
3. Show why your thesis provides the best solution.

This gives an impression of the rightness and importance of your argument, and suggests its larger significance or long-range impact. More importantly, it gives the readers a psychological sense of closure—the argument winds up instead of breaking off

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