

Fact Claim → An argumentative research paper which makes a quantifiable assertion.

- An **argument (claim)** about a **measurable topic (fact)**.
 - Questions to ask:
 - *Are there any statistics to back up your point?*
 - *What facts can you give showing your point is true/not true?*
-

Value Claim → An argumentative research paper which makes a qualifiable assertion.

- An **argument (claim)** about a **moral, aesthetic, or philosophical topic (value)**.
 - Questions to ask:
 - *What is morally wrong or right about the problem you are presenting?*
 - *Why is the problem morally wrong or right?*
-

Policy Claim → An argumentative research paper which makes an assertion about a course of action that should be taken.

- An **argument (claim)** about an **actionable topic (policy)**.
 - Questions to ask:
 - *If you could change your problem to fix it, how would you do it?*
 - *How feasible is the solution, and can it be reasonably implemented?*
-

Examples

Topic - The Death Penalty

Fact Claim - The death penalty does not deter crime.

Value Claim - Since it is inequitably administered, capital punishment is unjust.

Policy Claim - The death penalty should be abolished because it is unjust, it is inequitably administered, and it does not deter crime.

Topic - Television Violence & Children

Fact Claim - Violence on television negatively influences children.

Value Claim - Although the financial benefit for networks is great, it is ultimately counterproductive to air violent television shows..

Policy Claim - Because violence on television is harmful to all strata of American society, strict guidelines for permissible content of television shows should be enacted.

Topic - Art Paid By Taxpayers

Fact Claim - Publicly funded art is the most expensive art in the world.

Value Claim - Taxpayer funding for public art produces a low yield both physically and spiritually.

Policy Claim - Congress should discontinue funding for the NEA since public art produces benefits that are vastly outweighed by its cost.
