

ARGUMENT WRITING

For use with "Why Are Some Delegates Super?" on p. 10 of the magazine

Take a Stand

**Do you approve of the role superdelegates play in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination?
After reading "Why Are Some Delegates Super?" choose a side on this controversial issue. Follow the
steps below to turn your ideas into a powerful persuasive essay. Use this sheet to plan your essay.**

PARAGRAPH 1: Grab readers' attention and make a claim.

1. Start with a "hook," such as an anecdote, a surprising fact, or a pressing question. (Look for examples in *Upfront*.)
2. Include a very brief summary of the issue (one or two sentences).
3. Give a clear "thesis statement" that sums up your key arguments but does NOT use "I."

PARAGRAPHS 2, 3, and 4: Develop your arguments.

1. In each of these paragraphs, give an argument that supports your stand. Each argument should get its own paragraph. If you have only two arguments, you will have only two paragraphs in this section.
2. Develop each argument with facts, examples, and appropriately cited quotes from *Upfront* or other sources.

ARGUMENT 1

ARGUMENT 2

ARGUMENT 3

PARAGRAPH 5: Counter the other side's arguments.

1. Briefly acknowledge that some people take a different stand on this issue.
2. Explain why their key argument is wrong.

Paragraph 6: Finish strong.

1. Remind readers of your own key arguments.
2. End by referring back to your "hook" or making a strong statement about why this issue matters.

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