

Persuasive Writing & Speaking Structure for Success

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Persuasive Writing & Speaking Structure for Success

3.8 Paragraph Structure

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3.8 Paragraph Structure

One Idea

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3.8 Paragraph Structure

One Idea, developed with
Three Points

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One Idea, developed with
Three Points, through
Eight Sentences

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1. Introductory Sentence
2. First Point, factual statement
3. First Point, evidence
4. Second Point, factual statement
5. Second Point, evidence
6. Third Point, factual statement
7. Third Point, evidence
8. Summary Sentence

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Introductory Sentence, includes main idea and three points

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First Point, factual statement

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First Point, factual statement

Insectivorous bats are the major predator of night-flying agricultural pests, thereby protecting human jobs, food, and health.

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First Point, evidence

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First Point, evidence

A 2012 article in the journal Nature revealed that bats in the US save farmers as much as \$53 billion dollars annual in reduced crop damage and called for further research on savings consumers and farmers in reduced pesticide use and the effect on human health.

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Second Point, factual statement

Bats are an important and sometimes exclusive pollinator of many of the most valuable and even essential human crops.

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Second Point, evidence

For just a few examples, nectivorous bats are the primary pollinator of wild bananas, cocoa, and mangoes, and the exclusive pollinator of “tequila” agave and durian fruit, the most important food crop in SE Asia.

(source batcon.org)

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Third Point, factual statement

Bat guano has been critical to the development of human agriculture and remains so today, especially among subsistence and organic farmers.

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Third Point, evidence

A 2018 study in the scientific journal Agroecology reported that bat guano spread as bats hunt over agricultural fields increased production by as much as 22% and provided a much higher ROI than synthetic fertilizers.

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Summary Sentence, should restate the main idea and three points.

Tip: a simple way to create your Summary Sentence is to reverse the order of your Introductory Sentence.

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So the Introductory Sentence

“Bats provide ecosystem services that are critical to humans, including pest control, pollination, and fertilization.”

can become ...

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Summary Sentence, should restate the main idea and three points

Humans are vitally dependent upon the pest control, pollination and fertilization services provided by bats.

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Other Points, to be used for other paragraphs

- Seed dispersal
- Mosquito control
- Disease vector research
- Aerodynamics research
- Sonar research
- LIDAR research

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