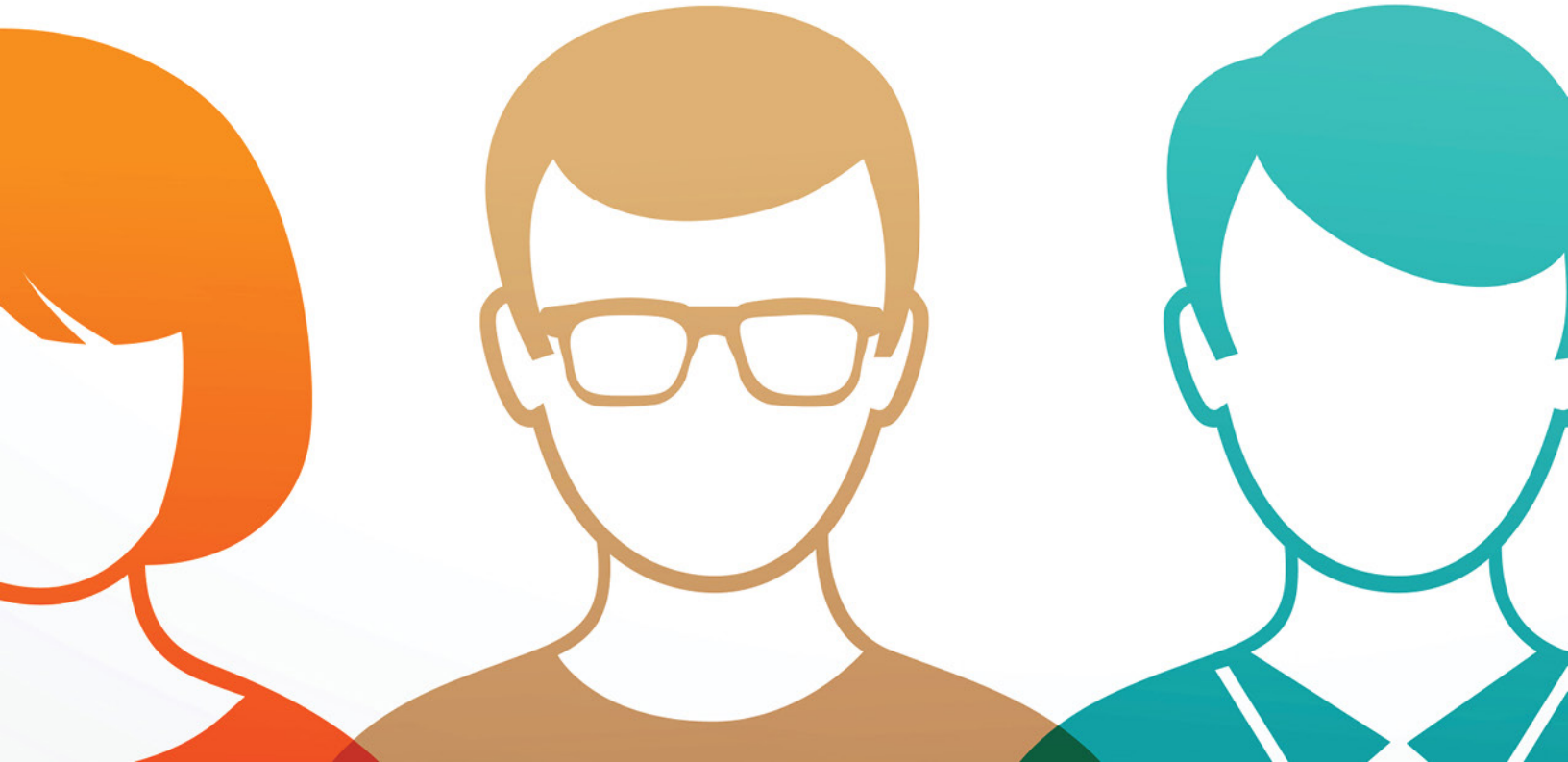


**170 GOOD ARGUMENT
TOPICS**
for Essays & Debate



Many thanks to Jordan, Joni, Karen, Joyce, Patty, and Lori—the wonderful women who participated in the creation of this resource.



170 GOOD ARGUMENT

TOPICS

for Essays & Debate

SAMM

170 GOOD ARGUMENT TOPICS

for Essays & Debate

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INTRODUCTION

The composer Igor Stravinsky once remarked, “If everything would be permitted to me, I would feel lost in this abyss of freedom.”

You might feel as if you're lost and falling into a never-ending pit when you're given a persuasive writing assignment or asked for a debate topic. Too many options can be overwhelming.

That's why we've compiled a list of 170 argument topics for essays or debates. The topics cover a range of issues and subjects designed to spark your creativity, challenge your thinking, and inspire you to explore new ideas and perspectives.

Access to solid argument topics can make the difference between a paper that causes you to struggle ... and one that almost writes itself.

WHAT TYPE OF TOPICS LEND THEMSELVES TO GOOD ARGUMENTS?

While there are lots of possible essay topics, not all work well to argue. The best topics for argumentative essays are the ones that are divisive enough to be interesting—while providing plenty of material to support your position.

TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Consider the following list a set of “do’s and don’ts” for argumentative essays:

1. Keep balance in mind.

Emotion is necessary, especially at the beginning, to draw the reader in and keep your paper relatable and readable. However, you also need to logically demonstrate why the reader should agree with your stance.

A well-written essay achieves a balance between using emotional appeals and avoiding manipulative tactics.

2. Observe persuasive techniques around you in your everyday life.

We are constantly bombarded by ads and agendas. Pay attention to how the media can shape your opinion. Use what you learn in your essay.

3. Don’t write solely to your parent/teacher.

Your audience includes anyone who might disagree with you. Win them over by addressing their objections—no matter who they are or what they believe.

4. Keep your thesis flexible, depending on your research and the flow of your paper.

In fact, it’s often better to write your introduction after you’ve written the “meat” of your essay.

5. Don’t—as in never—bring up new arguments in the conclusion.

The purpose of your conclusion is to tie everything together and exhort your reader to act on the information that’s been presented.

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6. Use repetition to embed your point in your reader's mind.

It is perfectly acceptable to state the same argument in more than one way to reach your reader.

7. Don't forget your call to action.

Don't leave room for doubt on what you want your reader to believe and/or do.

8. Incorporate storytelling techniques to make your point clear.

Some readers learn more effectively from analogies and real-world examples than from cold, hard facts.

9. Don't announce your thesis statement, your conclusion, or any other part of your essay.

Writing "in conclusion" or "this paper will prove" is unnecessary and looks elementary.

If you follow this formula, investing time and thought into each component, you will write an argumentative essay that captivates your reader from start to finish.

BRAINSTORMING MADE EASY

Brainstorming a great topic for your argumentative essay is the first step in writing an exceptional paper. We've done that for you!

Now all you need to do is select a category and pick a topic from the list. Choose from something you already know, or research something entirely new.

Categories include:

- Economy
- Technology
- Culture
- School
- Ethics
- Government
- Ideas for Younger Writers

INTRODUCTION

BEYOND ACADEMIC

Many of these topics affect your quality of life today and can shape your future.

As you select your topic and begin researching, don't just adopt and argue for the most popular or prevalent side—or the side that will win your teacher's approval. Rather, delve deep. Consider ramifications.

Explore all sides of the issue, and then argue for the position you believe to be true or best!

QUESTIONS

about the Economy

"I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle."

Winston S. Churchill

ECONOMY

Teenagers do more to shape the economy than almost any other group in society, and yet you are likely oblivious.

Companies know that if they can capture the heart of a teen, then they've likely found a customer for decades. Governments and political parties know it too, that's why they pay billions to promote ideas and slogans to people who can't even vote.

Recognize the ways you are being subtly influenced, take a step back, and think: *Does this agree with my values? Are there long-term consequences? Does this align with the Bible?*

Persuading someone about the economy usually isn't a simple issue of right or wrong. Like most topics, it is about **discerning what ideas are best.**

Economic ideas accepted or ignored now will impact the quality of your life for decades.

Here are just a few examples:

Employment opportunities: The state of the economy can have a significant impact on job availability and unemployment rates. A strong economy with low unemployment rates may mean more job opportunities and higher wages, while a weak economy with high unemployment rates can make it more difficult to find employment.

Income and purchasing power: The economy can also affect your income and purchasing power. In a strong

ON THE ECONOMY

economy, wages and salaries may be higher, and you may have more disposable income. In a weak economy, wages and salaries may be stagnant or even decrease, and you may have less money to spend on the things you need and want.

Access to credit: The state of the economy can also impact your access to credit. In a strong economy, banks and other lenders may be more willing to lend money, making it easier for you to get a loan for a car, a house, or other major purchase. In a weak economy, lenders may be more cautious, and it may be harder for you to get approved for a loan.

Cost of living: The economy can also impact the cost of living. Inflation, for example, can make the prices of goods and services go up, reducing your purchasing power. Additionally, if the cost of basic necessities such as housing, food, and healthcare goes up, it can be harder for you to make ends meet.

With that backdrop, let's look at argumentative essay topics that explore economics issues:

1. Was the toilet paper shortage during the pandemic a consequence of hoarding or supply chain issues?
2. Is a gig economy hurting traditional employers' ability to hire good employees?
3. Should there be mandatory drug testing for anyone receiving government aid?
4. Should elderly homeowners receive a property tax cap on their place of residence?
5. Is equality of outcome better than equality of opportunity?
6. Is cryptocurrency a legitimate form of currency?

170 GOOD ARGUMENT TOPICS

7. Should the government be allowed to print money without gold or other assets to back it up?
8. Should Americans take responsibility for labor practices of overseas companies by purchasing products that encourage fair practices?
9. Is the cost of a college education justifiable?
10. Is inflation always bad for the economy?
11. Should state-funded food benefits be limited to nutritional food only?
12. Is globalization good or bad for our economy?
13. Should prison labor be paid minimum wage and distributed to felons upon release?
14. Is the national debt a cause for concern?
15. Should taxes be increased or decreased to stimulate economic growth?
16. Should corporations be taxed at a higher rate than individuals?
17. Should the US government revert to socialistic practices to deal with current economic troubles?
18. Should large corporations get tax breaks for providing jobs to underserved areas?
19. Should companies have to operate at a loss during times of crisis—such as the recent pandemic—in order to supply necessities such as cleaning supplies and paper goods?

ON THE ECONOMY

20. Will purchasing the cheapest goods from overseas manufacturers hurt an individual's long-term financial health?
21. Is real estate still a good investment?
22. Does raising the minimum wage create a living wage for service workers, and does it lead to higher prices overall?
23. Should stadiums for privately owned professional sports teams be funded by taxpayers?
24. Should children of business owners be protected by child labor laws?
25. Is the stock market a reliable indicator of economic health?

FINAL THOUGHTS

Learning to construct and present persuasive arguments is an essential skill that will serve you well throughout your academic career. However, this isn't busywork: *You're developing life skills.*

Critical thinking is an essential skill that allows you to make decisions and solve problems effectively.

It involves:

- asking questions
- analyzing arguments
- evaluating evidence
- making decisions based on those evaluations

Along the way you learn to use logic, reasoning skills, critical analysis, and judgment.

Sound familiar?

And while it may not seem so at first glance, critical thinking is a skill that enables you to defend your beliefs effectively when challenged.

That's why we focus so heavily on critical thinking from a biblical worldview in the resources we offer at [Homeschool Adventure](#).

We want to help you be prepared for tomorrow.

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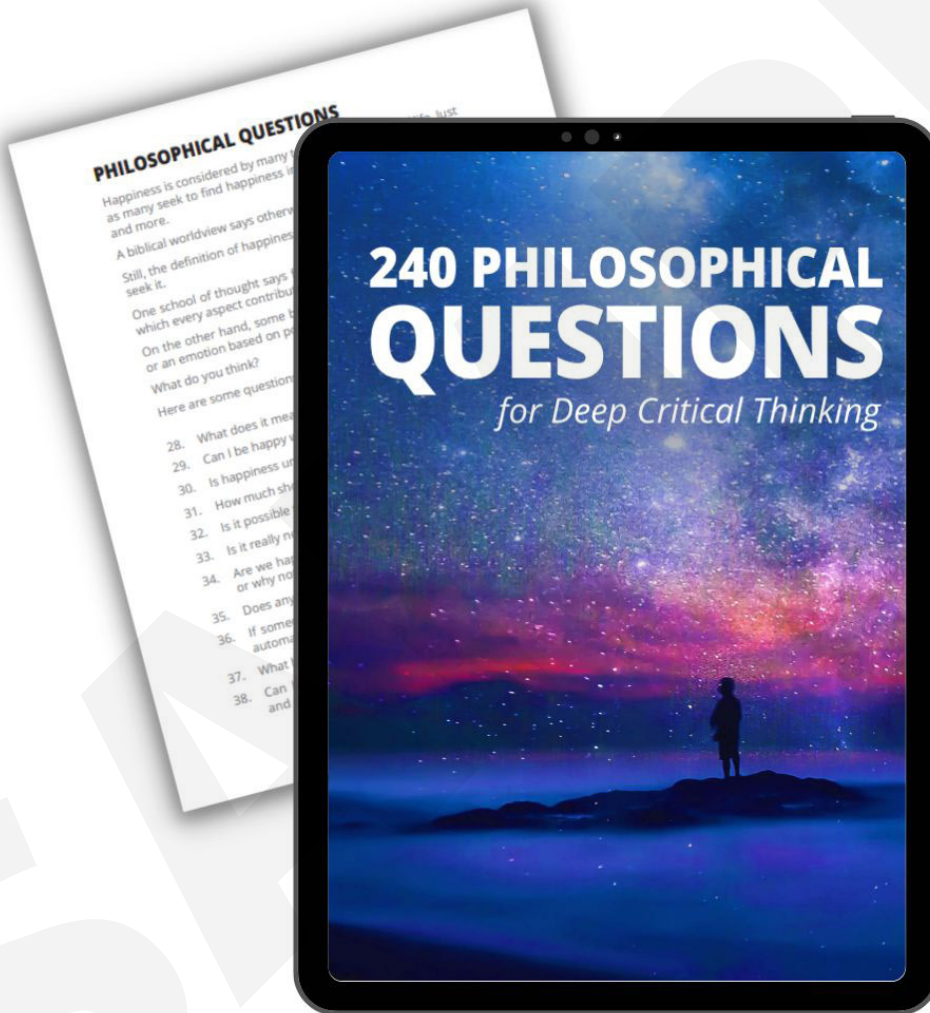
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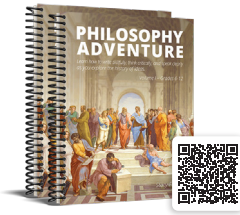
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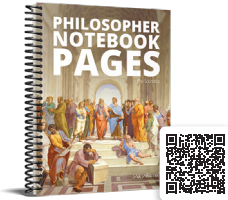
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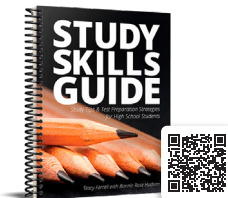
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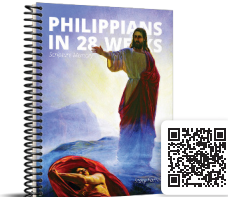
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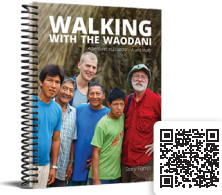
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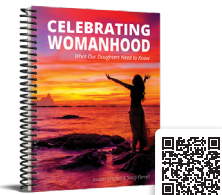
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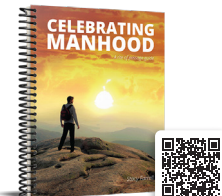
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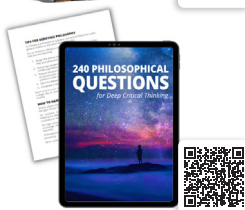
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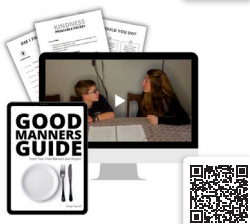
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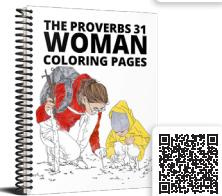
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