

Paragraphs Assignment

Mark Value: (Total 20%)

Being able to write a strong argumentative paragraph is a foundational skill that will help you succeed in any form of academic writing. A successful paragraph includes an argumentative topic sentence, a claim, evidence, and explanation. Effective body paragraphs must also be sufficiently unified, developed, and coherent.

Paragraph #1. Choose one of the following questions:

- 1) Freeman and Merskin draw on existing literature on eco-feminism and food to show how masculinity is equated with eating meat. Do you agree, disagree, or a bit of both that modern food is gendered? You can either discuss this in relation to meat, or you can offer an analysis of other products that may not be gendered (beer, cars, tofu, yogurt, salads etc.).
- 2) Freeman and Merskin highlight how advertising articulates social values. Write an argumentative paragraph where you pick an advertising trend and make an argument about what values and meanings it is presenting.
- 3) In their exploration of the connection between environmental concerns and the position of women in society, Freeman and Merksin draw on eco-feminism. Based on your reading of this article, might eco-feminism be an effective lens in studying our current environmental issues?

Paragraph #2. Choose one of the following questions:

- 1) Kelsey Blair argues that the 2010 Gold Medal Hockey Game was a type of “utopian performance,” cultivating feelings that lifted everyone above the here and now, and into an emotionally intense shared space of the possible. Do you agree, disagree, or a bit of both, that sports events can emotionally influence us, and show us the optimism of the future?
- 2) In her exploration of these fleeting but intense utopian affects, Kelsey Blair offers that these feelings often allow us to overlook messy and uncomfortable political issues. Write an argumentative paragraph that studies one or two of these messy issues; you can further consider how sports, nationalism, sexism, racism, classism allow for this type of overlooking.