



Argumentative essays are also known as “persuasive essays,” “opinion essays,” or “position papers.” In an argumentative essay, the author adopts a position on a debatable issue and uses reason and evidence to convince the reader of his/her opinion. Argumentative essays generally follow this structure.

Introduction provides some background information on topic  
indicates that it is a controversial topic  
ends with thesis statement

Thesis Statement

## Sample Argumentative Essay

In 1969 the New Brunswick legislature adopted the Official Languages Act, which gave the English and French languages equal status under the law and ensured New Brunswickers' right to receive services from the government in their preferred language. At the time, many citizens expressed concerns over bilingualism. Recently, the debate about official bilingualism has been reignited. Many people have called for the end of bilingualism in New Brunswick; some even question the value of bilingualism altogether. However, New Brunswick should remain an officially bilingual province because it protects the rights of the French-speaking minority and it is both culturally and economically valuable for the province.

First, New Brunswick should remain officially bilingual because it will help ensure equal rights for the French-speaking minority in New Brunswick. For instance, the Official Languages Act ensures that